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FEDERAL POWER NETWORK CONSIDERED 'FEASIBLE'

Salisbury THE HERALD-BUSINESS HERALD in English 2 Aug 79 p 1

[Text] An appeal by the chairman of South Africa's Electricity Supply Commission for a federal type of power network in Southern Africa has been described in Salisbury as technically feasible and something desirable in the long run.

Dr R. L. Straszacker, chairman of Escom, put forward the suggestion at a meeting in Johannesburg this week. He said almost all countries in the sub-continent had huge untapped electrical generating resources.

Zimbabwe Rhodesian electrical experts said this week the idea was certainly possible technically, but obvious political pressures prevented its execution.

"However it would not bring us immediate benefit as we are not short of power generation sources at the moment," said a senior official.

Hundreds of millions are due to be spent under the five-year economic plan published earlier this year. This includes three new projects on the Zambezi and, if the plan was fully implemented, would account for \$300 million.

Any Southern African link-up would probably bring South Africa most benefit, as it would get away from using its more expensive coal as fuel.

For other Southern African countries there would be very little benefit, apart from South African expertise being available, while South Africa could hook up with the cheaper hydro-electrical schemes.

"Certainly," said an official in Salisbury, "the Cabora Bassa scheme has shown that it is possible to have very high voltage transmissions over long distances."

Dr Straszacker said Escom currently supplied about 60 percent of all electricity generated on the African continent.

He said the idea of an integrated system was mooted at the turn of the century when the Victoria Falls was regarded as a place where power could be generated for the mines and growing populations on the Wit-watersrand.

"The problems existing in the long-distance transmission of electricity at high voltages then prevented the realization of this pioneer dream," he said.

"Today, however, Southern Africa has some of the longest high-voltage transmission lines in the world in operation.

"The 533kv monopolar line from Cabora Bassa, for instance, is 1 264 km long--the distance from Madrid to Hamburg. Work originally done in West Germany and South African expertise have made possible the transportation of power over this long distance to Apollo substation near Pretoria, across an international boundary.

"Secondly Escom has, for more than a decade, operated 400kv transmission lines from the eastern Transvaal to Cape Town.

"The technology is known and has been proven--the future may we'll see this sort of international development."

A cursory examination of the bases for co-operation in the supply of electricity in Southern Africa revealed the following:

"In areas such as the Transkei, Kwazulu, Lesotho and Swaziland there exists potential for the generation of hydro power which could be sold to South Africa.

"The Tugela River, as an example, has an estimated capability of generating 4,000 to 5,000 megawatts of power for peaking purposes, i.e., for usage during about two hours each day.

"The establishment of an electricity zollverein--if one may call it that--would require a full analysis of the other potential sources for electricity generation which exist in Southern Africa.

"These are indeed vast. One need only think of the still untapped hydro potential of the Zambezi and Kafue rivers.

"While a second station of 2,000 mw capacity can be added on the northern bank of the Zambezi at Cabora Bassa, it is estimated that a further dam in this same river between Kariba and Cabora Bassa can duplicate the Kariba power of 1,500 mw.

"In Zambia considerable expansion of power can be installed on the Kafue river. In Zimbabwe Rhodesia, Botswana and Zambia there still are good coal deposits, some of which could certainly be used for power generation.

"Angola, where the Kunene river has now become controlled by the Gove dam 250 km upstream from Ruacana, offers more hydro potential.

"At Cabinda the oil fields supply large amounts of liquid fuel energy and only a few days ago it was reported that oil bearing sands had been discovered in Zambia.

"Should one extend the area of Southern Africa into Zaire, the vista broadens considerably. It has been estimated that the hydro-electricity potential of the mighty Congo river may be as much as 40,000 mw."

CSO: 4420

SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN REFUSED ENTRY INTO KENYA

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 7 Aug 79 p 2

[Text] **BLOEMFONTEIN.** — 10 South African women including two Black women who were refused entry to Kenya on Thursday night were later forcibly put on an aircraft for South Africa at gunpoint.

This was revealed here yesterday by Mrs Sheila MacKenzie, president of the National Council of Women of South Africa and leader of the South African delegation to the triennial meeting of the International Council of Women in Nairobi.

She reacted strongly to a report in the Kenyan Sunday newspaper "The Nairobi Times" which quoted a senior immigration official as telling its reporter that the delegates had been turned away because they had no visas and "no-one is allowed to enter Kenya without a visa."

Negotiations to obtain visas covered a period of several months after initial advice had been received that no visas would be granted to delegates from South Africa and Zimbabwe Rhodesia.

It was not until NCWSA received notification, includ-

ing a photostat copy of a letter from the Department of Immigration, Office of the Principle Immigration Officer dated June 15, stating that visas had been granted, that it was able to finalise its arrangements.

The letter clearly stipulated the procedure that was to be followed in obtaining the visas on arrival at Nairobi Airport.

"The Kenyan newspaper report makes it sound as if a bunch of irresponsible women had not made satisfactory arrangements", said Mrs MacKenzie.

"What was particularly distressing was to be advised that the visas had been cancelled a week prior to our arrival. Had we received notification of this we would never have left South Africa."

No help was received from the officials during the 20 hours the South Africans spent in the transit lounge.

"We were not their responsibility and could tell from

their approach that we were not welcome." Mrs MacKenzie said.

Not having been through customs the women were unable to cash travellers cheques and had to call on an airline official for assistance. He provided vouchers to enable them to obtain breakfast and lunch.

Mrs MacKenzie said it appears that the Immigration Department operates a special desk at Nairobi Airport to issue visas and many visitors to Kenya who have not obtained visas before leaving their own countries are issued with visas at this desk. This was, however, of no assistance to the South Africans whose visas had been cancelled. — Sapa.

OAU CHARTER CHASTISED FOR MONROVIA DISAPPOINTMENT

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 21 Jul 79 p 2

[Editorial: "The OAU Charter"]

[Text] Some of the issues brought before the OAU Summit in Monrovia and the directions taken by the deliberations on them point to the need for a serious redefinition of some of the purposes of the OAU as seen from certain clauses of its Charter.

The debate on Tanzania's involvement in the overthrow of the Amin regime in Uganda, for instance, leaves the clear impression that most OAU leaders see the Charter mostly as a guarantee for maintaining the status quo.

Thanks to the Charter provision for non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, several leaders who are clearly rejected by their people continue to rule.

If you mention the bloody rule of leaders like Bokassa in Central Africa and Nguema in Equatorial Guinea, many other African rulers quickly shake the Charter in your face and show you the clause on leaving others' internal affairs alone.

The most disastrous post-independence black government is ended in Uganda with the assistance of Tanzania, and hell breaks out among African leaders because that went against the letter of the Charter.

It does not matter that practically the entire Ugandan population welcomed the Tanzanian action, and even when the very head of the new Ugandan Government stands up to proclaim Tanzania as liberators, Tanzania must be condemned for contravening the letter of the Charter.

When it is convenient, such a clearly wrong action as the illegal occupation of the Saharan Arab Republic (former Spanish Sahara) by Morocco and Mauritania is twisted to mean an internal issue and the Charter is invoked to prevent any progressive leader from pressing the usurpers to give up.

In all the examples given above, the common factor is not the interest of the populations involved but the wishes of the leaders concerned.

If the non-interference clause were applied on the basis of what the wishes of the populations are, would the suffering people of Central Africa and Equatorial Guinea refuse the help of other African countries to overthrow Bokassa and Nguema?

If the people of the Saharan Arab Republic were consulted, would they have accepted the present colonial status to which they are subjected through the force of arms by the leaders of Morocco and Mauritania?

And if the interest of the 90% or more of the Ugandan people who continue to jubilate everyday over the overthrow of Amin and regard Tanzania as their liberators were the factor in assessing Tanzania's role, would any African leader dare to raise a finger of accusation against Nyerere?

So the OAU Charter has become the means by which bad rulers can entrench themselves in power, and not a guarantee for the people's best interests.

But the OAU remains the rallying point of African Unity, and the present era of self-interested leadership will give way to a new order that would fulfill the visions of the founding fathers.

CSO: 4420

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

KENYA TO HOST AFRICAN INSTITUTE'S REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 28 Jul 79 p 1

[Text] Addis Ababa, Friday--Kenya will host the proposed regional headquarters of African institute for higher technical training and research.

Kenya won the claim to host the centre yesterday following a heated debate the previous night at a meeting of the governing council of Higher Technical Training and Research.

Kenyans won the claim after the Kenyan delegation fulfilled the preliminary procedural requirements governing the hosting of the institute. Burundi, Ethiopia, Egypt and the Sudan were the other countries which wanted to host the institute headquarters.

Of these countries only Kenya presented a comprehensive dossier outlining what facilities she could offer in helping a speedy establishment of the institute.

The institute is conceived a training and research institution which will be basically concerned with helping African states to develop the required technological capability.

The institution will have the task of training Africans in technical skills to master, apply, adapt and develop modern technology--to Africa.

The institute, a pace-setter in technical training methodology, is also expected to play a leadership role in national technical education programmes.

The six-man Kenya delegation was led by the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Economic Planning and Community Affairs, Mr D.J.O. Kiro.

CSO: 4420

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

NEW EAST AFRICAN MAP RELEASED--The East African Publishing House has just released a new, up-to-date wall map of East Africa. Speaking to EDUCATION NATION last week, Mr John Atunga, EAPH marketing manager said: "It is the newest map of East African anywhere today. We received it from the United Kingdom only last week." He said it is the cheapest wall map on the market, in East Africa today. "It costs only 125/- while similar wall maps cost more than 200/-." It carries such new names as Nyandarua Mountains, Lake Turkana and Lake Bogoria. He said the map has been prepared with the latest cartography and survey techniques. He said it has been prepared in close co-operation with the Department of Lands and Settlement, and the Departments of Survey of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. The wall map is a political and physical map of East Africa, in colours that are easy on the eye. It shows all the new major roads, and provincial and district headquarters of the three countries. It is printed on firm, but flexible high coated linen-backed paper. [Text] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 31 Jul 79 p 9]

TANZANIAN EXPERTS VISIT MOZAMBIQUE -- Two groups of agricultural experts from Tanzania are in Mozambique to conduct research on the coffee, corn, tea and cotton crops. The first group, which was headed by Dr B. Simon, a coffee expert, went to Mozambique at the invitation of President Samora Machel, early this year. Mozambique, which is producing a small amount of coffee for its own use, has decided to have large coffee plantations and Tanzania will help in doing research on this crop. These experts have left Maputo for Inhambane Province in their first stage of research in four provinces which are now promoting coffee production. These provinces are Inhambane, Cabo Delgado, Manica and Niassa. After the completion of their research, the groups will issue a report to the two governments. [Text] [Dar es Salaam UHURU in Swahili 20 Jul 79 p 1]

CSO: 4407

NEW FACES TO APPEAR IN IMPENDING ELECTIONS

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 27 Jul 79 p 8

[Article by Ernest Chillisa in Gaborone]

PRESIDENT Sir Seretse Khama of Botswana is expected to dissolve parliament and call for new general elections in the next three months.

They are expected to be held not later than October.

By January this year, over 219,413 had registered as voters. Supplementary registration has been carried out ever since and will probably be completed by August.

When the exercise is completed, more than 300,000 will have registered, although no provision has been made for 40,000 working in South African industries.

President Khama has appealed to Botswana to take the coming elections seriously and his party would not be happy to be voted back into power by a small proportion of the population.

The policies of two of the opposition parties--the BPP and BIP--do not fundamentally differ from each other. Nor do they differ much from that of the ruling party. All basically ascribe to Western type democracy.

Poles apart, however, is the ruling BDP led by Sir Seretse and BNF led by Moscow-educated Dr Kenneth Koma. BDP advocates a "mixed" economy and gradual, not revolutionary change.

President Khama said recently: "We don't want destructive revolution." His party totally rejects what it calls foreign ideology.

He says he will be prepared to step down if the people reject him at the polls, but is prepared to defend democracy if some people threaten to take power through the barrel of the gun.

Sir Seretse has rejected pressure to disengage immediately from economic links with South Africa, saying that uncalculated actions may cause catastrophe.

Sir Seretse is expected to bring new faces into office replacing some of the old guard with young blood to meet the aspirations of the party's youth wing.

Koma's party wants change in the country's economic and political structure and disengagement from South Africa, which offers landlocked Botswana access to the sea.

The coming elections, says the BNF, will be the last to be won by the BDP. Next time will see a BNF victory.--GEMINI

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH TURKEY--Ankara, 24--The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Turkish capital has announced that Turkey has decided to establish diplomatic relations with Cape Verde at the ambassadorial level. The official spokesman added that the establishment of relations is aimed at developing the bonds of friendship between the two countries. The Turkish ambassador in Lisbon, Balkan Nejat, emphasized the importance of this positive step in establishing relations between Portugal [as published] and that African country. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 25 Jul 79 p 8]

CSO: 4401

CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE

BRIEFS

MLPC PRESIDENT HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE--During a press conference on 31 July in Paris, Ange Patasse, president of the MLPC (Movement for the Liberation of the Central African People), accused the French Government of delivering again arms to Bangui and authorizing the recruitment on its soil of mercenaries to defend the Central African regime. He stated that Duchemin, minister of state of Bokassa I [sic], is at present in France to undertake this recruitment. Patasse also accused Libya and the Soviet Union of aiding militarily Bangui. He said: "If tomorrow there is a civil war, we will hold responsible some governments including those of France, Libya and the Soviet Union." The former premier also issued an appeal for a general "uprising," presented the MLPC's "republican program" and announced the opening as of Wednesday of a recruitment office for students prepared to join the struggle for the abolition of the empire. Patasse had given an initial press conference on 7 June (LE MONDE of 9 June). [Text] [Paris LE MONDE in French 2 Aug 79 p 6]

CSO: 4400

IMF SURVEYS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS, PROSPECTS

London WEST AFRICA in English 23 Jul 79 pp 1312, 1313, 1314

[Text] An impressive majority of Congolese voters reportedly voted YES in a referendum on the Constitution held early this month. Voters at the same time elected representatives to the national, regional and local assemblies. Political developments have been remarkable — three Heads of State within 3 years, the latest being Col. Sassou Nguesso. An IMF Survey article looks at economic developments.

THE CONGO has encountered serious economic and financial difficulties since 1974. In that year the economy boomed because of a large rise in both the volume and price of oil exports and exceptionally strong world demand for Congolese timber. The balance of payments registered a surplus, and budget revenue almost doubled. In 1975, however, a serious downturn occurred, from which the economy has not yet fully recovered. The high hopes of a rapid rise in oil production with a concomitant rise in export receipts and budget revenue, remained unfulfilled as oil production declined due to technical problems and as the recession in Europe lowered the demand for timber.

Furthermore, the already weak position of state enterprises has continued to deteriorate since 1974, as financial strain led to inadequate maintenance and prevented replacement of equipment in the face of technical and management difficulties. In 1978 a partial recovery took place after a long and deep recession, although the economy still had serious financial problems. In 1979, however, output is expected to continue to rise at a rapid rate and the financial disequilibria are projected to be reduced so that output should reach and may even surpass the peak attained in 1974.

During 1974-78, changes in real gross domestic product (GDP) were largely

influenced by fluctuations in mineral production, especially in oil production. Despite a sharp recovery in 1978, value added of mineral production was 16 per cent below the level attained in 1974.

The rest of the economy, while not declining, suffered from a prolonged stagnation, because real GDP, excluding mining, increased by only 2 per cent between 1974 and 1978. As a result, real GDP, including mining, was 2 per cent lower in 1978 than in 1974. After having increased by 20 per cent in 1974, real GDP declined by 3 per cent in 1975 because of a sharp fall in mineral production, resulting from a decline in oil production caused by technical difficulties with an offshore oil field located in complicated geological structures.

In 1976, oil production recovered slightly, but real GDP still stagnated because of a decline in agriculture and services. Technical problems with oil production recurred in 1977, with the result that real GDP declined by 5 per cent. However, in 1978, when a new oil field came into production and industrial production rose following the infusion of badly needed fresh capital into some state enterprises, real GDP increased by 7 per cent. The recovery in mineral and industrial production is forecast to continue in 1979, when real GDP is expected to rise by 6 per cent.

Despite the discovery of three offshore oil fields, the Congo has never been a major oil producer, nor is it expected to become one on the basis of discoveries made so far. Annual production should reach a peak of 2.6 million tons in 1979. Nevertheless, oil production — and thereby the mining sector — is of crucial importance to the economy, with this sector accounting for 17 per cent of GDP in 1978 and with oil exports, all in the form of crude, contributing to 69 per cent of total exports in the same year. Existing recovery techniques permit production from the oil fields for only a few years. Production from the first two oil fields will decline by 1980 and come to a stop by the mid-1980s, when the fields will be depleted. Production from the third field is expected to start in 1980 and to continue slightly beyond 1985.

The impact of the 1975-77 recession on supply and demand was greatly exacerbated by the lag in adjustment of gross domestic expenditure to the decline in real output. Consumption, which consistently has remained at a high level in relation to GDP, continued to rise by 12 per cent in real terms in 1975 despite the 3 per cent drop in GDP. In 1976, when GDP stagnated, real consumption still rose by 5 per cent. This pattern of rising consumption and declining output led to serious financial strain but could not be sustained in 1977, when consumption and GDP both declined.

The lagged reaction of consumption to changes in GDP persisted in 1978, when consumption continued to decline despite the sharp increase in GDP. Continuing growth in GDP is, however, expected to lead to a major rise in consumption in 1979. Gross investment has been quite volatile since 1974, rising significantly in 1975 and then declining very sharply in both 1976 and 1977 under the impact of the recession. In 1978, on the contrary, gross investment rose very sharply because of large investments in oil production and a rise in public investment.

In spite of the economic difficulties of the country and the volatility of investment, the ratio of investment to GDP at current prices has remained with the exception of 1977, at a high level of 20 per cent or more. The slowness with which consumption adjusted to the decline in real GDP, however, led to a marked deterioration in savings; gross domestic savings were negative in 1975-77 and only became slightly positive

in 1978. High investment combined with faltering savings inevitably caused the emergence of a large resource gap, which in relation to GDP amounted to 28 per cent in 1975 and subsequently declined to 19 per cent in 1978.

Fiscal and Monetary Policies. The expansionary fiscal policy adopted during the boom in 1974 and the slow adjustment to the subsequent recession are clearly reflected in the Congo's budgetary accounts because most of the financial disequilibria experienced since 1975 originate in the budget. In 1974, when revenue almost doubled because of the more than tenfold increase in oil income, the rise was offset by the steep increase in total expenditure, with the result that the budget deficit rose slightly. Current expenditure increased by 72 per cent, whereas capital expenditure, while still relatively small, more than doubled. In 1975 oil income declined, and total revenue increased by only 11 per cent. The rise in current expenditure was limited to 19 per cent, but as the ambitious investment projects adopted during the euphoria of the 1974 boom started to be implemented on a large scale, capital expenditure rose by 156 per cent, causing the budget deficit to increase from 3,900m. CFA francs in 1974 to CFAF 20,400m. or the equivalent of 13 per cent of GDP. Financing from foreign sources covered only CFAF 3,400m. and the remainder consequently had to be financed from domestic sources, including the accumulation of treasury payments arrears.

In 1978 the resumption of rapid growth contributed to a 19 per cent increase in revenue, but because an exceptional amount of expenditure was carried over from 1977, the budget deficit on a cash basis widened greatly to CFAF 15,900m. Foreign financing on a net basis was insignificant and domestic financing posed serious problems, including a continuing substantial rise in arrears.

The structure and overall deficit of the balance of payments also clearly reflects the recession which began in 1975. A special characteristic of the balance of payments is the large net outflows under services and transfers, largely stemming from the oil sector, expatriate remittances, and interest payments on the foreign debt.

Partially offsetting these outflows are comparatively large inflows of private capital, almost exclusively relating to oil

exploration and production. In 1974 when oil exports quadrupled, there emerged both a small trade surplus and an overall balance of payments surplus. In 1975, however, oil exports — and thereby total exports — plummeted, whereas the large rise in gross domestic expenditure led to a commensurate rise in imports and resulted in a sizeable trade deficit. Because of larger net outflows under services and private transfers, the deficit on goods and services increased sharply, but this increased deficit was to a large extent offset by an almost threefold increase in private capital inflows. Consequently, the overall balance of payments registered a deficit of only CFAF 13,100m.

Deficits

During 1976 and 1977 the overall balance of payments deficit further increased, reaching CFAF 34,200m. by 1977. Oil exports recovered, while the slowdown in gross domestic expenditure caused a noticeable decline in imports, thereby leading to the elimination of most of the trade deficit. The deficit on goods and services, however, remained largely unchanged because of greater outflows under services and private transfers. The impact on the overall balance of payments of these larger outflows was aggravated by smaller inflows of official transfers and capital, the latter reflecting the downturn in investments.

In 1978 the trade deficit practically vanished as a result of the increase in oil

exports and the stagnation in imports caused by the modest increase in gross domestic expenditure. Nevertheless, the deficit on goods and services increased, owing to the continuing rise in net outflows under services and private transfers. A further decline in inflows of official transfers and capital therefore led to a larger overall balance of payments deficit than in 1977.

During 1979 the overall balance of payments deficit is expected to be cut by over a half, despite a sizeable increase in imports caused by higher consumption, because exports and private capital inflows are forecast to rise markedly. Practically the entire increase in exports will be due to oil, while much of the private capital is related to the opening up of the new offshore oil field in 1980.

Since 1976 the Congo has had recourse to various Fund resources. A financial programme in support of a stand-by arrangement in the enlarged first credit tranche was negotiated in late 1976 for calendar year 1977. In June 1977 the Congo drew the full amount of the arrangement — SDR 4.7m. Furthermore, in February 1977, the Congo purchased SDR 6.5m. under the Fund's compensatory financing facility. The financial programme negotiated for 1977 also qualified the Congo for a Trust Fund loan in the first period, in which total disbursements amounted to SDR 5.4m. In early 1979 a financial programme for the 1979 calendar year was negotiated, qualifying the Congo for a drawing in the second credit tranche and for a Trust Fund loan.

PRESIDENT PLANS TO ACCELERATE REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS

Paris DEMAIN L'AFRIQUE in French 2 Jul 79 pp 33-35

[Interview with President of the People's Republic of the Congo Denis Sassou Nguesso, in Brazzaville, by correspondent Pierre Debato: "We Will Repress Our Bourgeoisie"; date of interview not given]

[Text] The die have been tossed. On 8 July 1979, the president of the People's Republic of the Congo, Denis Sassou Nguesso, with the approval of his people, will have the means for an original, bold experiment in Africa, which will involve decentralizing power (See DEMAIN L'AFRIQUE, issue 29) and implementing the radicalization mapped out on 5 February 1979. Three months after his accession as head of state, Sassou Nguesso, a fervent supporter of socialism in the Congolese manner, intends to accelerate the revolutionary process through which his country will develop. He is declaring war on the imperialists and the bureaucratic, middleman bourgeoisie. He is advocating the establishment of social justice to provide for the well-being of all Congolese and is preparing a strategy of breaking away from the neocolonial system. For the readers of DEMAIN L'AFRIQUE, Sassou Nguesso agreed to detail, with our special correspondent in Brazzaville, Pierre Debato, the objectives established under his guidance by the extraordinary congress of the PCT [Congolese Labor Party] and explain to us the transformations taking place in his country.

[Question] At the conclusion of the proceedings of the extraordinary congress last March, a slogan was adopted--"Live austere today in order to live better tomorrow." Could you explain for us the meaning of this message?

[Answer] One basic lesson of the Third Extraordinary Congress of the PCT is to have emphasized that the bureaucratic bourgeoisie and the middleman

bourgeoisie are the principal props of foreign domination. These two social classes are the domestic targets of our people's struggle; this means that the struggle against the imperialists is necessarily linked to the struggle against the bureaucratic bourgeoisie and the middleman bourgeoisie.

In this struggle against foreign domination, our people must above all rely on their own efforts and, given imperialism's ravages of our natural resources, a spirit of sacrifice is necessary. However, this spirit of sacrifice is not idealistic in nature; it has a revolutionary character. Above all, it means the repression of members of the bureaucratic bourgeoisie who are responsible for the current economic crisis. Next, it assumes that the people will endure heavy sacrifices, which will help create the conditions for a subsequent development of the revolutionary movement in the Congo.

[Question] The PCT has been restructured in order to accelerate the revolutionary process. What measures have been taken to this end?

[Answer] In order to continue the Movement of 5 February, the party had to be restructured after the third congress. Indeed, after the death of our party's founder, our party's methods were characterized by a lack of ties to the rank and file and above all, by bureaucratic working methods, which thus created an atmosphere of intimidation, a dearth of active, democratic life from the bottom to the top and inadequate liaison between the party and the masses. The restoration of the central committee and the election of the political bureau should enable the party to achieve the main objectives of the third congress and carry out the essential tasks of the revolution of national liberation.

[Question] The 1973 Constitution has been repealed. Does this mean a change from the policies carried out by your predecessors?

[Answer] The Third Extraordinary Congress of the PCT made great strides toward making the revolutionary process in our country dynamic. It could not be otherwise because this congress was held after the Movement of 5 February, which once more gave our people the opportunity to express their profound aspirations and burning desire to carry out the revolution of national liberation. Since the Second Ordinary Congress and the promulgation of the 1973 Constitution, our people became aware of new factors, notably the place which the bureaucratic bourgeoisie occupies in our institutions and its action to block the revolutionary process so that imperialism could pillage our wealth. Resolutions, recommendations and motions of the Third Extraordinary Congress make new demands on the party and the state. The promulgation of a new constitution after the Third Extraordinary Congress of the party will help our state meet these demands.

[Question] Relations between your country and your foreign partners must be established on the basis of equality and respect for respective ideologies. At the same time, you have requested that your country be admitted

to CEMA. Does this mean a change in the spirit with which you carry on trade with the EEC countries?

[Answer] The work of the congress demonstrated, in analyzing the current model of colonial and neocolonial development, that the outward-looking orientation of our model of accumulation had historical and colonial roots.

Indeed, colonial trading societies imposed a tertiary vocation and a transit function on our economy. One drawback of this model of development is the age-old imbalance in the balance of payments which causes inflation. It is these contradictions in economic relations of exploitation, in other words, unequal exchange, which explains our effort during the third congress to have the question of our presence in CEMA as observers discussed.

Our party is fully aware that many treaties still bind us to European capitals, especially those of the EEC, by the Lome Agreement and our participation in the franc zone. Our party is aware that a presence within CEMA implies that certain conditions be met first. We must thus reconcile the need for economic partners on an egalitarian basis with the need for a methodical, thought-out transition.

[Question] Your country took part in the Franco-African summit in Rwanda, after staying away several years. Do you not fear that this confirms the paternalism of the former colonial power?

[Answer] Since the formation of this Franco-African Conference, our country first participated in its meetings as an observer. This enabled us to study the goals pursued by this organization and, above all, to determine what advantage this organization had for our country. Participation in the Kigali conference allowed us to publicize the Congolese position on all problems under discussion, because it serves no purpose to practice the "empty chair policy." Cooperation is based on mutual understanding and interest.

[Question] Recently you met with French businessmen. During these talks, was the question of renewing French investments discussed?

[Answer] The visit of French businessmen is in keeping with the spirit of the third congress--cooperate with all countries, including capitalist countries, on the basis of mutual advantage and non-interference in the affairs of each country.

[Question] There has been a regular decrease in national production, an increase in the total wages paid and a dizzying increase in the price of staples. What measures will be taken to mitigate this state of affairs?

[Answer] Our country's economic and financial crisis is linked to that of the world capitalist system on which almost the entire Congolese economy depends. Our economy remains neocolonial, basically geared to satisfying

the needs of the world market, at the expense of those of our laboring masses, who are nevertheless the principal producers of the goods exported.

In our country capitalism uses the bureaucratic, parasitic bourgeoisie of the state markets to perpetuate its domination and the crisis it causes. With its taste for luxury, its excessive consumption of sophisticated products, its lack of interest in the problems of the masses, its complicity with the capitalist societies, the bureaucratic bourgeoisie is the cause of the decrease in production and spiraling prices on the national market.

To mitigate this state of affairs, the third congress advocated a strategy of breaking away from the neocolonial system at all levels. On the economic level, the congress demanded that all means be removed through which the bureaucratic bourgeoisie enriches itself at the people's expense.

[Question] Poor management and fragility of state enterprises have often been blamed. Do you think that the latter should still exist? If so, to what extent should they be profit-making?

[Answer] The Congolese people expect a great deal from state enterprises, because they allow the state to control a large part of the economic life of the country. Certainly most of these enterprises are ailing. Nevertheless, they are the fruit of the efforts of the people and the laboring masses. The management difficulties which we will encounter are instructive and should not make us abandon this economic sector which in our country is expected to become dominant. The state and the party are contemplating a program of rapid revitalization for some of these enterprises, deemed decisive in the current situation--cement factory, sugar factory, fishing, textile and other companies. We have set up new enterprises, among which is Sonaco [National Construction Company], with Cuban aid, which is supplying us with a building materials factory. This enterprise was set up through the FNS [National Solidarity Fund].

[Question] The FNS was set up and is expected to have 5 billion CFA francs by 1980. It is to be used to feed and provide housing for the Congolese people. Is it a state loan floated by the government or a surtax to make up for a certain insolvency elsewhere, notably in the taxable activities whose management has been deemed disastrous?

[Answer] The FNS is not a surtax. It does not claim to compensate for the insolvency of the taxable activities. The FNS is, above all, a political act. It puts into practice the slogan "rely above all on our own efforts." Most of our development programs have failed for want of capital. We were expecting this capital from abroad.

The third congress, in the new self-starting and domestic-oriented economic system, has classed agriculture as the top priority. Specifically, it means that if we can not finance an industrial policy because we lack the means, at least we can rely on our own efforts to provide our people with housing and food.

Moreover, this will not be the first time that the Congolese agree to such an effort. Two years after the Movement of 13, 14 and 15 August 1963, the government asked our people for a contribution to set up several production units. One of them, the SIAP [Paper Goods Industrial Company], better known as the copybook factory, is extremely successful and is today the pride of our country.

[Question] Tell us about the new agricultural production planning.

[Answer] The Third Extraordinary Congress of the party attaches special importance to solving economic problems. It recognized that agriculture must be the basis and industry the determining factor in the process of economic development. For this reason it gave the department of the political bureau responsible for planning and the economy the responsibility for carrying out studies in order to draw up a plan of socioeconomic development for the country.

Two months after the congress, it would be risky and frivolous to say much about the new plan of agricultural production. However we can say that the 1978-1979 program of government action aims to increase agricultural production. Indications about the areas cleared and the tonnages to be harvested are in line with forecasts. This experiment will soon enable us to contemplate real planning.

We are, however, awaiting the results of the 1978-1979 program of government action in order to draw up a second intermediary program 1980-1981, before contemplating a real plan of national development.

[Question] A reform of the retail trade organization has been under consideration. This effort should help improve the distribution system for staples and strengthen price controls. Has this reform gone into effect? Could it be said that the results are satisfactory?

[Answer] You are referring no doubt to the formation of the BCM* [expansion unknown]. Our retail trade was a little unsettled after the departure of west African merchants from our country. We attempted a new organization of this sector to encourage interested Congolese to take on the marketing of staples. OFNACOM [National Office of Trade], which should supply them, has not been in a position to satisfy the demand. The political authority is studying the progressive take over of the national economy. Studies now underway should make possible this take over and effective control of the domestic market distribution system so that the Congolese people will not be subject insistently to the whims of international capitalism and the anarchistic rise in the price of staples.

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*Shops on a commission basis set up and given to the Congolese after west Africans were expelled from the Congo.

EPLF OFFICIAL HAILE MENKERIOS DESCRIBES PRESENT SITUATION IN ERITREA

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 6 Jul 79 p 13

[Interview with Haile Menkerios, member of the Central Committee of the Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front, by Walter Michler]

[Text] In the 18-year-old Eritrean-Ethiopian civil war, the Ethiopians have once again gained the upper hand. Following the successes in the Ogaden conflict, which were achieved with Soviet and Cuban help, Mengistu Haile-Mariam--head of the revolutionary military junta now ruling in Addis Ababa--was able to again recapture this province, which had almost completely seceded, through the renewed support of his friends from the Kremlin and the Caribbean. The two major Eritrean liberation fronts (ELF and EPLF [Eritrean Liberation Front and Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front]) are not yet admitting defeat. Timely retreats have saved them from complete annihilation by the militarily far superior enemy. Now they want to further carry on the fight in the underground. In 1950, the onetime colony of Eritrea was granted the status of inner autonomy by the United Nations. The conflict broke out when the Ethiopians forcibly annexed the region in 1962. Walter Michler recently interviewed Haile Menkerios, member of the Central Committee of the Eritrean Popular Liberation Front, on the current situation in Eritrea.

Question: What is the current military situation like in Eritrea, following the latest major offensive of the Ethiopians?

Answer: The avowed aim of the last Ethiopian-Soviet major offensive was to capture Nakfa (a strategically important EPLF bastion in northern Eritrea--Editor's Note), as well as to destroy the important EPLF supply bases which are situated in this region. Moreover, the enemy wanted to cut us off from supplies from the Sudan, which up to

now have been arriving by way of the border town of Karora.

But the offensive ended in a total washout. Both the units advancing by land from the south and the troops which landed along the Red Sea coast were forced to withdraw after fierce engagements with our liberation army. This victory provided us with the time needed first of all to complete the construction of new supply bases in the inaccessible mountainous areas of the extreme north, and secondly to establish the new supply connections which thereby became necessary.

Although our provisioning is now more troublesome, it is proceeding in the shelter of the mountains which are controlled by us, and it is thus secure from the enemy. A large part of our army was tied up in this difficult spadework, but these troops have now become available and will increase the fighting power of the EPLF considerably.

Question: How do you intend to engage this fighting power, and with what strategy do you plan to continue your fight after the victories and territorial gains of the Ethiopians?

Answer: Our present combat strategy is aimed at avoiding direct military confrontation with the enemy. We must husband and preserve our own human and material forces. A "protracted people's war" (theory and practice of the "protracted war" taken over from Mao--Editor's Note) is what we call our tactics: Underground struggle and acts of sabotage in the towns, extremely mobile and small combat groups in the countryside--that is to say, "hit-and-run" tactics everywhere, aimed at splitting up the forces of the enemy. This specific guerrilla warfare forms a part of our overall strategy, namely to first recapture smaller military posts as well as break the lines of communication and supply of the enemy, and subsequently to encircle the larger cities and garrisons. This strategy is already being successfully carried out by us: We have wiped out numerous military convoys, weapons depots, and small military posts, following the renewed occupation by the Ethiopians. This has now already so unnerved the enemy that its combat effectiveness has been appreciably weakened in the north. Its offensive has reached its limits, and our carefully planned counteroffensive will now start moving.

Question: What turn did the war take because of the direct intervention of the Russians and Cubans?

Answer: With the Russian intervention, the complexion of the war has completely altered: As in Vietnam, the adversary is waging a battle of materiel, with tanks, airplanes, and heavy artillery. Not only has the number of MIG-19, -21, and -23 fighter planes considerably increased, but in addition the Ethiopians have also purchased heavy bombers, troop carriers, and supply planes from the Russians. New reconnaissance planes are able to provide even night photographs, by means of special infrared devices. Immense numbers of T-54, T-55, and T-66 tanks are

now in action. Multiple rocket launchers (BM-21's), fragmentation bombs, napalm, and defoliants are the cruel and inhuman means with which the enemy wants to wipe out our will to self-determination.

Question: How does the EPLF view this direct Soviet intervention?

Answer: This Russian intervention is not based on revolutionary principles, but on power-politics considerations, which have to do with the interests of the Soviets on the Red Sea, in the Indian Ocean, and at the Horn of Africa. Greater Ethiopia, which even though at present it is absolutely pro-Soviet is not revolutionary, is regarded by the Russians as a better guarantor for gaining its own interests than a revolutionary but after all small and politically independent Eritrea.

Question: Do you not feel compelled to change your political viewpoint following the massive successes of the Ethiopians?

Answer: The main goal of the Eritrean revolution is complete independence from Ethiopian colonialism, and as far as this goal is concerned we will never accept a compromise. Naturally, temporary retreats necessitate a modification of the tactical plans, but they cannot and will not under any circumstances lead to the point where we abandon our just aim of the total national independence and social emancipation of the Eritrean people.

Question: Is it not high time to begin negotiations with Mengistu on a peaceful solution to the conflict?

Answer: As concerns a peaceable solution, we have no illusions about Dergue and his political designs in Eritrea. Mengistu will not stop wanting to force a military solution. We have a standpoint based on principles. The Ethiopian government must first recognize that the Eritrean people have the right to national self-determination, and secondly that the EPLF and the ELF are the legitimate representatives of the Eritrean people.

When the Ethiopians respect these things, we are at all times ready to sit down around a table for negotiations. But the Ethiopian military junta is by no means willing to accept our basic rights. It can be made to do that only by armed resistance--and, looked at on a long-term basis, all the conditions are on our side for achieving this. Time is our chief ally.

Question: On what grounds do you label Mengistu's regime as fascistic?

Answer: We do this on account of the machinations of this regime. Mengistu has suppressed with brutal force every political opposition and all the democratic demands, by his establishment of a reign of terror. He has destroyed the political parties and has erected a

dictatorship composed of a handful of military men. An atmosphere of chauvinistic hysteria prevails in Ethiopia, an atmosphere of fear, of betrayal, and of accusations, and all of this is only for the purpose of subjugating Ethiopia's own people through intimidation.

Mengistu wants to solve every political problem by military force. Therefore he is continuing in Eritrea as well with his barbaric and genocidal massacres, because he wants to force at any cost a military solution to the problem. Slogans such as "socialism," "anti-imperialism," and "defense of the motherland" cannot conceal his true--that is to say, inhuman--machinations. The Ethiopian military junta is making use of extremely refined methods of suppression, and its political orientation is that of total control and the rooting out of every democratic development.

Question: What is the situation like in the areas now occupied by the Ethiopian army?

Answer: All the processes of economic, political, and social development which we had set in motion have come to an absolute standstill. Most residents abandoned the towns when our army withdrew. The occupation forces are trying to consolidate their power by means of massive reprisals and executions. But the liberation struggle will continue on even in these towns. Our "mass organizations" have gone underground, and they will wear down the enemy with acts of sabotage.

There is an acute shortage of everything, and in the towns hunger is spreading. Therefore, more and more Eritreans are now leaving the occupied towns and villages and are fleeing into the areas controlled by us or into the Sudan. In the countryside, the enemy chose to forcibly conscript from every village 15 to 20 boys and women, in order to fight against our revolution with this "puppet army." The young people had fled, and the enemy had to recruit these farcical forces. The Ethiopians have committed massacres and have destroyed our property, but they have not been able to chop off the deep roots of our revolution among the people.

Question: Following the most recent negotiations, have the ELF and the EPLF really moved closer together?

Answer: On the basis of our agreement of 21 January 1979, a joint military strategy was developed. Now we are beginning to jointly carry out initial military actions. Specific command guidelines and operational plans were drawn up at the top political level during the last negotiations on 6 April 1979 in Khartoum. Our cooperation and thus our strength will increase further.

Question: Are there any changes in the attitude of the African nations to the Eritrea conflict?

Answer: More and more, the insistence of the Ethiopian military junta on a military solution is being condemned. Besides that, opposition is growing against the direct military intervention of the Soviets in the conflict. Also, more and more African countries are realizing that the Eritrea question differs historically and politically from other internal conflicts in Africa. Thus there is in the offing a positive change in attitude in Africa, where the national liberation struggle of the Eritrean people has hitherto been largely ignored.

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PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIAN, MUSLIM GROUPS SAID TO CONTINUE

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 10 Jul 79 p 3

[Text] 9 July--The following report reaches us from Addis Ababa about the persecution of Christian and Muslim groups in Ethiopia:

The technical equipment of the expropriated broadcasting station of the Lutheran World Federation in Addis Ababa is being used more and more frequently by the government for propaganda against the churches. In broadcasts in the Amharic language, warnings are periodically being given to beware of Christians who are allegedly sabotaging the revolution on orders from foreign secret services. This is a clear indication that the arrests of Christians now taking place throughout the country are being centrally directed by the junta.

Officially, religious freedom prevails in Ethiopia. Therefore, actions against the churches are not announced in official statements, but are transmitted only by word of mouth from the central offices to the provinces, and they are not represented in the defamatory propaganda broadcasts as being directed against religion. From almost all the provinces, reports are coming in to Addis Ababa about increasing numbers of arrests. The local political cadres--so far, about 6,000 young people have been trained at the political school in Addis Ababa--are instructing and compelling the farmers' cooperatives and the town neighborhood groups to close churches, to arrest and interrogate church leaders, and to throw into jail hundreds of parishioners. Provincial governors are threatening Christians with the scare of the Red Terror, which for almost 2 years now has visited the population of this country in waves of bloodshed.

A well-known victim of these new campaigns against religion is Pastor Gudina Tumsa, secretary general of the Lutheran Mekane-Jesus Church (about 500,000 members) in Addis Ababa. Last year, he was kept in prison for over 4 weeks, and in June he was again taken into custody--as in the other case, with no reasons being given. When his youngest daughter wept before the prison gates, she was likewise put behind bars. Justification: Whoever grieves for enemies of the revolution must be reeducated. There exist detailed accounts concerning the methods and

extent of practices of torture in Ethiopia. In the south-east of the country, it is Muslims and the heads of the Islamic mosques who are especially the victims of persecution. In recent weeks, there have been many arrests and shootings in this area. Increasing numbers of Muslims are going underground, in order to escape the terrorism and to fight against the military dictatorship, which is being massively supported by the Soviet Union, Cuba, and the GDR. For some weeks now, Radio Harar has been giving detailed reports on the Oromo program (that is the language of the extensive Oromo people, numbering about 15 million members) about these struggles in the provinces of Bale, Arusi, Harage, and Sidamo. Many Islamic intellectuals are seizing upon the pilgrimage to Mecca as an opportunity for flight, or they are entrusting themselves to a caravan of the nomadic Issa and are escaping to Djibouti, which is overflowing with refugees. The journey from Dire Dawa to Djibouti costs 100 birrs, about a hundred marks, and requires a trek through the desert which lasts 6 to 7 days.

More than any other Christian group, the "Pentecostalists" seem to be a target of persecution. "Pente" is regarded as a very severe and threatening invective; thus in Nekempte, capital of the province of Welega, hundreds of parishioners of the Lutheran Mekane-Jesus Church have been arrested and publicly accused of being "Pentes." There are also reports of arrests and serious threats and persecutions of Christians from the provinces of Ilubabor, Kefa, Sidamo, and Gemu Gefa. Here, the large Baptist church of Kale Hiwot is being especially afflicted. Church leaders and parishioners are being systematically arrested and interrogated and are accused of showing hostility to the revolution. In Addis Ababa, more and more frequently are church services being disrupted, and churchgoers are being prevented from attending services on Sunday morning.

The large Orthodox Church seems to be exempted from this persecution. This can be explained in two ways. For one thing, those who are Orthodox belong to the Amharic people, who even after the revolution have with great tenacity kept a grip on all the leadership positions in the military, economic sector, and politics--something which of course is possible only with foreign help. The persecution of the non-orthodox churches and of Islam can thus be understood as entirely a consequence of the suppression and subjugation of the non-Amharic peoples on the fringes. The second reason for the sparing of Orthodoxy could be that many critical intellectual Ethiopians have come from the missionary schools in the south and east of the country and by no means from the traditional church schools of the Orthodoxy. Although these intellectuals have welcomed the revolution and the land reform, they are resisting the ideologies which are being enforced by means of terrorism, and the central bureaucracy which is being set up with foreign help--a bureaucracy which is brutally destroying every sign of democratic stirrings in the provinces.

ETHIOPIA

ELF-PLF CHAIRMAN DECLARES ARAB AID INADEQUATE

Rabat L'OPINION in French 6 Jul 79 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Osman Saleh Sabbe, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Eritrean Liberation Front-People's Liberation Forces [ELF-PLF], by Khalid Jamal; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] "Arab Aid Is Far From Being What We Desire."

A total of 1,000 Soviet advisers, 2,000 GDR advisers and 17,000 Cubans are supporting the Ethiopian Army against the Eritrean Revolution which accounts for more than 100,000 martyrs.

Question: Can you give us a historical run-down on the Eritrean problem?

Answer: The Eritrean problem is one of the results of colonization in Africa. As you know, Eritrea was under Italian domination from 1869 until 1941, the year of the defeat of the Italian Army. After the failure of the four powers to find a solution to the Italian colonies and at a time when the Eritrean people began to work for its independence by creating the Istiqlal Koutla Party, Ethiopia, arguing that it had no opening to the Red Sea, took steps to annex Eritrea. It was supported in this plan by the Western forces, particularly Great Britain which governed on behalf of the Great Powers, and by the United States.

The solution of a federal union between Eritrea and Ethiopia was imposed through a UN resolution in 1950. This agreement was implemented in 1952 and consisted of the formation of a local Eritrean government and the election of a parliament. In reality, Ethiopia occupied Eritrea on behalf of the federal government which was to be composed of a like number of Eritreans and Ethiopians.

This situation made the Eritrean Government a purely formal institution. That lasted until 1962 when the Ethiopian Government annexed Eritrea making it its 14th province. This decision met with reaction among the Eritrean people and the establishment of the ELF which initiated the armed conflict and established the liberation and independence of Eritrea as its goal.

The Eritrean Revolution now comprises 40,000 men. It is certain that this conflict has imposed sacrifices.

Up to now, the Eritrean Revolution has resulted in 100,000 martyrs (mostly civilians), the destruction of its entire economic infrastructure and more than 500,000 Eritrean refugees to Sudan and Saudi Arabia.

These sacrifices were not in vain, since we succeeded in liberating most of our country.

It must also be said that our revolution has experienced certain setbacks which have influenced the conflict negatively. These setbacks reflect internal contradictions rampant among the Eritrean people, which no one tries to whitewash under the guise of pseudo ideological divergences. In truth, these contradictions are the expression of the religious and ethnic constituents of the Eritrean people.

Question: The Eritrean Revolution comprises a number of trends and groups.

Answer: In reality, the ELF remained unified until 1970 when a split occurred giving rise to Eritrean Liberation Forces and the Revolutionary Council. But both groups wanted to keep the name "Liberation Front." This split resulted from the preponderance of military effort exerted to the detriment of the revolution's organizational aspect. By this I mean that there was no opportunity for the renewing of positions of responsibility; and this gave rise to an accumulation of problems which could only end up in an explosion.

At this point a Marxist trend appeared giving priority not to Eritrean liberation but to the type of government to install.

In 1975 we tried to recapture a state of unity and, for this purpose, signed the Khartoum Accord. But this agreement failed because of a second split within the Eritrean Liberation Forces and the emergence of a new Marxist trend which gave rise to the Popular Front.

Once more, one cannot dissociate this map of political forces from the religious map of Eritrean forces. However, we must insist on the point that all three organizations are fighting against the Ethiopian invasion of Eritrea.

As far as we are concerned, we give priority to national liberation and to Eritrea's Arab and African characteristics.

We believe that Eritrea could have been liberated in 1977, for, at that moment, Ethiopia was going through a period of transition and was therefore incapable of resisting a unified Eritrean Revolution. Unfortunately, that did not happen.

It is certain that the transitional phase which followed the departure of the king of kings could have been profitably used to settle the problem. The

new Ethiopian regime was destined to change the whole affair through the options it made. This required a period of adaptation of which we were not able to take advantage due to the divergences within the Eritrean Revolution.

Question: One cannot divorce the Eritrean problem from the international political chessboard, all the more so as your country occupies a strategic position of the greatest importance; this cannot fail to be of interest to the United States, the USSR and China. What is the position of each of those powers concerning the Eritrean problem?

Answer: The USSR supported our position in 1950 contrary to the United States which supported annexation of our country to Ethiopia. But the Soviet position changed. The USSR became neutral, having established good relations with Haile Selassie.

It must be pointed out that Moscow has never furnished aid to our revolution.

In 1975 the Soviet Union took sides with Ethiopia which had become Marxist. But that does not mean that the USSR is not trying to establish peace in this area, for it has interests here and in no way desires a Vietnam where it risks becoming embroiled.

Question: What is the nature and importance of Soviet intervention in Ethiopia?

Answer: There are more than 1,000 Soviet advisers in Ethiopia, more than 2,000 GDR advisers and 17,000 Cuban soldiers. To be sure, these advisers are all military advisers and serve as officers for the Cuban contingent.

At the same time, the Soviet Union has tried to find a political solution to this conflict through Aden and the GDR.

Question: Eritrea's history cannot be dissociated from that of the Arab-Moslem world. Do you believe that the Arab countries are giving your revolution the necessary support?

Answer: There is no doubt that we are attached to the Arab world through our geographical location and our cultural and political history. Without denying the aid furnished by the Arab countries, we must unfortunately recognize that this aid is far from what we desire. We would like for the Arab countries to submit the Eritrean problem to the United Nations. Unfortunately, that has not happened.

Question: Have you any relations with the Arab League? Are you a member of the league like the PLO?

Answer: No. The Arab League does not give us any aid, although some member countries give us aid.

Question: What position is Europe adopting in your regard?

Answer: We would like for Europe to play a more significant role with regard to the Red Sea which is a continuation of the Mediterranean. The European position follows in the wake of that of the United States.

Question: Why have you not submitted the Eritrean problem to the Moslem world?

Answer: Eritrea is composed of Christians and Moslems, and in no way do we want to cause irritation. We prefer to have our conflict placed within the framework of national conflicts. That does not exclude aid from Moslem countries.

We were admitted as observers to the conference of ministers of foreign relations of Islamic countries in Bengasi in 1973. During that meeting it was decided to furnish aid to the Eritrean people. But, subsequently, there was a reversal, even a complete turnabout, since we were no longer admitted to the conferences held by Moslem countries, even though Eritrea is close to the holy sites of Islam; 100 kilometers separate our country's coasts from Saudi Arabia.

Therefore, we are asking the Moslem countries to assume their responsibilities as in the past, as in the case of the occupation of our coasts by the Portuguese.

Question: You have been in Morocco for several days; you have met many Moroccan leaders; you have been received particularly by M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign relations and cooperation; you expect to be received by his majesty the king. What do you expect from Morocco and the Moroccans?

Answer: We are all of the same continent. We are bound by Islam and Arab blood. Thus, we are hoping that the Moroccan will support us politically and by all other means. Morocco has already offered us material aid as well as political support.

We have asked Mr Boucetta to have Morocco back us among the African countries as well as within international circles. To be sure, Morocco has its problems, but we know that it is listened to by many African, Arab and European countries.

We are confident that Morocco can play a major role within the scope of a search for a solution to our problem. We hope to be received by his majesty the king in order to express our viewpoint and request his aid and support, since his majesty, Hassan II has effectively participated in the solution of a number of conflicts which have erupted in the area.

25/60

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NATION ON ROAD TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY FOLLOWING DROUGHT

London WEST AFRICA in English 6 Aug 79 pp 1415-1417

[Text]

A correspondent reports on the 1979/80 budget presented to Parliament in Banjul

DILIGENCE and discipline -- as well as external aid -- have combined to induce the Gambian economy's recovery, or the beginning of it, from the devastating drought of three years ago. Presenting the country's 1979/80 budget to Parliament, the Gambian Minister of Finance and Trade, Alhaji Mamodo Cadi, said that although the economy had recovered its pre-drought growth momentum, the country's impressive trading performance in the last fiscal year had been neutralised by the high cost of imports, the unit value of which was estimated to have gone up by 10.4 per cent.

However, despite the discomfort of an adverse balance of payments (occasioned mainly by repayment of external loans), the government was able to pull out a budgetary surplus this year, assisted by low domestic inflation rates and good house keeping.

The level of economic activity picked up considerably during the year. The Gross Domestic Product at current market prices is estimated to have increased to 303.6m. dalasis in 1978/79 from D216.6m. in 1977/78 and D257.7m. in 1976/77, a nominal increase of 40.2 per cent, and 17.8 per cent respectively. Consequently, the

output per capita at current market price is estimated to have risen from D471.89 in 1976/77 to D526.09 in 1978/79, an increase of 11.5 per cent; and when compared with the previous year, an increase of 36.3 per cent. At current factor cost, the GDP also increased from D216.2m. in 1976/77 and from (estimated) D175.3m. in 1977/78 to D251.4m. in 1978/79, an increase of 16.3 per cent and 43.4 per cent respectively.

The one important factor that dominated the performance of the Gambian economy during the year was good weather. The result was a considerable improvement in the GDP originating from agriculture, forestry and fishing. Declining from D129.9m. in 1976/77 to D101.7m. in 1977/78 when the drought was severe, it rose sharply to D158.6m. in 1978/79, showing an increase of 26 per cent and 56 per cent respectively.

Following improved agricultural production, the allied sectors of transport and distributive trade also picked up momentum. The GDP originating from distributive trade which fell from D40.5m. in 1976/77 to D23.8m. in 1977/78 rose again to D40.1m. in 1978/79. In the transport sector, an increase of 15 per cent

was estimated in 1978/79 over the preceding year. The contribution of the public services sectors continued to increase in response to the faster implementation of the current Development Plan.

The manufacturing sector, however, received a set-back as a result of the government's decision to export less groundnut oil and more groundnuts in 1978. Nevertheless, in spite of a good groundnut harvest, The Gambia's external trade did not do very well in monetary terms, though its composition was more favourable to the country than in the previous year. Estimates indicate that the total value of external trade during 1978/79 would be about D314m. Also estimates based on provisional data show the value of recorded commodity exports to be approximately D93m. These figures suggest a trade deficit of about D128m. in the recorded visible trade during 1978/79 fiscal year. Again, available figures show that the country's exports between July 1978 and March 1979 stood at D49.4m. against an import load of D150.7m., a deficit of D101.3m. Even so, the position could have been worse but for a much larger inflow of tourists during the year. As a result of a highly successful promotional effort abroad, the country was able to expand its tourist source, and to increase its intake of tourists from 9,545 in 1977/78 to 14,415 in 1978/79.

The Gambia's external reserves consequently dwindled during the year under review but more so because the country had to repay two separate loans from the International Monetary Fund, totalling D9m. Some relief, however, arrived in the form of D6m. from the STABEX scheme, established by the EEC for the purpose of remedying "the harmful effects of the instability of export earnings of ACP countries".

Moderate increase in employment was recorded in 1978, amounting to about 4 per cent over 1977. But the increase was restricted to the private sector, especially in the distributive trade and transport, where redundant workers from the public sector had found jobs. The government's incomes policy succeeded at the same time in keeping wage increases down to an estimated 4 per cent. This figure compares

well with 5 per cent in 1977, 11 per cent in 1976 and 35 per cent in 1975. The overall effect was a tight control of the rate of inflation in the country.

In 1978/79, inflation rate was kept down to 7.9 per cent, an impressive achievement in the face of the rising cost of energy and in the aftermath of drought. This achievement can be seen more clearly against the average annual consumer price index which (with 1974 as a base) was estimated at 187.1; comparing with 173.4 in 1977/78 and 157.3 in 1976/77. On the annual calendar basis, it stood at 180.3 in 1978, comparing with 165.7 in 1977, 147.3 in 1976 and 125.9 in 1975.

One development which the Gambian government is likely to view with concern is the growing dominance, by food articles, of the country's commodity imports. According to provisional data, the value of imports of food articles during the period between July 1978 and April 1979 was D39.3m. or 22 per cent of the total import bill. The overall composition of imports shows that commodities classified as "food" accounted for 70 per cent of the total increase in the nation's imports. This means that out of D13m. spent over and above last year's imports, some D9.1m. went for food alone, i.e. foods for Gambians themselves. Then followed "manufactured foods", intended for the running of the tourist industry. It is perhaps worth mentioning that high food prices could be partly responsible for the large food bill. Alhaji Mamodou Cadi talked of his government's efforts to reduce food imports by increasing local cultivation of rice; he also talked of plans for improving the country's trade balance by diversifying agricultural production.

In this regard, The Gambia's experimental cotton project becomes interesting. The Minister said that the government was carrying out a critical study of the project with a view to interesting farmers in cotton production. The project target, he added, was to achieve 4,000 hectares of cotton by 1980.

Local rice production is another project close to the government's heart. Happily, growing conditions were highly favourable during the 1978/79 season for all types of rice. The Minister said that some 340 hectares of new farmlands were established

and that some 3,475 metres of canal were lined. More farm inputs were supplied and up to 85 new irrigation pumps were brought into operation. Some rice fields, which had become useless as a result of pump shortage, said Alhaji Mamodou, were made productive again; and the employment of 90 new power tillers had enabled land preparation to be completed in good time.

Improvement in the quantity and quality of groundnuts remains a major objective in the Gambian government's agricultural development effort. The 1978/79 season was favoured with good weather conditions, and production rose to about 128,981 tonnes, compared with 85,717 tonnes in 1977/78. The result could have been better still but for some un-seasonable heavy rains in November 1978 and January 1979.

The government is considering the development of artisanal and industrial fishing. An EEC grant of D3.9m. has been earmarked for the artisanal sector and programmed to include modernisation, training and revolving loans. The government is participating in the UNDP/FAO fisheries project in The Gambia, and also considering a DANIDA offer of 10m. Danish krone to buy a fishing vessel, gear and spare parts aimed at developing industrial fishing in the country.

Foreign earnings from tourists

The tourist industry is proving an important foreign exchange earner for the country. From a 15 per cent decline in 1977, it recorded an increase of 45.9 per cent in 1978. Air chartered tourist traffic, said the Minister, increased by 63 per cent. He explained: "The record increase is a general reflection of our effort to diversify our sources of tourism. Our efforts in penetrating the German tourist market proved successful, and we were able to attract one of the largest German tour operators, Touristik Union International, to fly charters to The Gambia. Other German, Swiss and British tour operators also expanded their activities."

For the future, Alhaji Mamodou expected a steady growth and diversification. In preparation, two new hotels with 420 beds, as well as an extension of two existing ones will be completed against next season. "Our main objective for next year,"

said the Minister, "will be to plan for an all-year tourist season. The United States market provides a timely source for bridging this gap and with the recent opening of a tourist office within our embassy in the USA, we are optimistic about achieving good results from our promotional efforts."

Revenue estimates for 1979/80 are D76,531,260, an increase of D10,399,450 over last year's, representing a growth of 15.7 per cent. Expenditure estimates are D72,480,780, an increase of D3,055,810 over 1978/79 and a growth of 4.5 per cent. A comparison between estimated revenue and expenditure for 1979/80 reflects a surplus of D4,050,480 or 5.5 per cent. A budgetary surplus for a small agricultural country, barely recovered from the effects of a severe drought, in a world of recession and energy shortage, is no mean achievement. Still, the Gambian government is not relaxing. Said the Minister: "The conceptual framework of the budget has been one of restraint, allowing for very modest increases. Changes in establishment have been rigidly kept to the barest minimum consistent with the need to improve size of complements, streamline structures and provide a few promotion outlets in most deserving cases. The estimated surplus of some D4m. will increase the size of the Consolidated Revenue Fund at the end of June 1980."

Principal tax changes

The main revenue proposals in the budget were: an increase in customs duty on fuel oils, petrol, kerosene and diesel oil by 10 bututs a gallon, which will yield D500,000 the year; residential permit fees up from D50 per person to D60 to yield D100,000; an increase in duty on rice from D5.35 to D7.35 per 100lb to yield a further D1.34m. (This latter increase will not be passed on to the consumer but will be absorbed by The Gambia Produce Marketing Board and the wholesaler); an increase in duty on flour from D1.35 to D3.35 per 100lb is expected to provide D224,000; the hotel bed tax is raised from D1 to D2 per person per night to yield D330,000; and an increase in payroll tax (which is applicable only to expatriates taking up employment in The Gambia) from D1,500 to D2,000 per person per annum to yield D120,000.

The total revenue expected from the budget proposals is D3.12m. which should strengthen the balance in the consolidated revenue fund.

STATE ROLE URGED IN FOOD PRODUCTION

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 14 Jul 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Who Produces the Food?"]

[Text] The current food situation in the country exposes the danger in leaving the country's food production and distribution too much in the hands of individuals.

Apart from the danger of the authorities losing control over the agricultural programme generally under this system, emergency exercises aimed at ameliorating food shortages will never yield the desired results.

That is not all. People with evil intentions are also able to exploit situations, spray around all sorts of rumours, create confusion among the rural peasant farmers, and disorganize the food distribution system.

In order to exercise full control over the agricultural programme, therefore, it is necessary that the government direct more attention to State participation in that field.

The solution to Ghana's agricultural problem, we maintain, lies in the establishment of large-scale plantations and no more small subsistence farms, some of which can easily pass for back-yard gardens.

For, it is the establishment of such farms that can help the government to embark on realistic and meaningful programmes, setting targets in the process to enable it to assess achievements or failures.

Some may argue that these farms have in the past proved upproductive and expensive to run. We reply that they can be made productive and less expensive under proper care.

Difficulties

For, it is apparent that the past difficulties in the running of such large-scale farms did not emanate from the fact that the soil was not rich but that the management had been poor.

There have been cases of some farm managers, spending most of their working time either on their private farms or on French leave at home. Others were simply inefficient.

In other instances, bad security allowed pilfering on the farms, making outsiders rather than the government to benefit from the projects.

It is, therefore, necessary that all such loopholes are closed in order to make large-scale farming viable.

Fortunately for us, we have now many agricultural experts turned out by the universities and other higher institutions who are capable of running such farms to yield good dividends. Such talents must not be wasted.

All complaints about square pegs being forced into round holes would be empty noises if we continue to remain impassive to such begging chances.

Besides, the Food Distribution Corporation could play a more meaningful role if food production is properly organized.

The FDC, in the present crisis, has won no credit, because of the disorganized nature of the marketing system.

We hope the Limann Government will not fight shy of full State participation in food production. This would also make the existence of the State food distribution agencies as useful as they are capable of being.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

ACUTE DRUG SHORTAGE--All the theatres at the Komfo Anokye Hospital here may close down anytime from now as a result of shortages of anaesthetic drugs used for operations at the hospital. Surgeons at the hospital said unless measures are taken to bring in supplies of essential drugs such as floratain, ether, insulins for diabetic patients, anti-rabbies vaccine, anti-tetanus serum and pentothal it would be necessary to close down the theatres. The surgeons who gave the hint in Kumasi yesterday observed that for sometime now patients needing surgical attention had to be treated with inadequate drugs available at the theatres. A spokesman for the surgeons told newsmen that the drugs in demand had been out of stock since last year. According to the spokesman, attempts by the hospital management to get the Ministry of Health to better the situation had proved futile. Investigations, conducted by the "Times" revealed that whereas the Komfo Anokye Hospital had no pentothal drugs in its theatres, private hospitals in town have them in abundance and are selling at \$25 a vial. [Text] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 14 Jul 79 p 1]

CIVIL SERVANTS FULLY REINSTATED--The Armed Forces Revolutionary Council has directed that all Civil Servants dismissed as a result of the civil servants strike of November, 1978 should be reinstated with full financial benefits. In a White Paper accepting the main recommendations of the Committee of Enquiry into the November 1978 strike, the AFRC has further directed that those reinstated should not be made to suffer loss of years of service or seniority. The bail bonds singea in respect of some of the Executive Members of the Ghana Civil Servants Association should also be discharged. In respect of the financial demands which led to the strike action, Government endorses the recommendation of the committee that a positive attempt should be made to bring the salary and other conditions of service of civil servants at par with those obtaining in the public corporations and boards. Further, the Government has accepted the recommendation of the committee that the Association of Civil Servants of Ghana should be accorded due recognition. [Text] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 14 Jul 79 p 8]

MORE CRUDE OIL ARRIVES--An oil tanker, "M. T. Payas," yesterday started discharging 28,837 metric tonnes of crude oil to the Ghaip oil refinery. It is hoped that the tanker will complete discharging the oil within three days. The crude oil, ordered by the Ministry of Fuel and Power on behalf of the government, was the third consignment to the Ghaip oil refinery and second from a foreign country since the new measures on consumption of petroleum products were announced on June 28 this year. A reliable source disclosed yesterday that a government chartered oil tanker, "M. T. W. A. Mather," berthed at the Tema harbour last week from the Saltpond oil field to discharge 10,359 metric tonnes of crude oil. [Excerpt] [Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 7 Aug 79 p 1 AB]

GHANAIAN STUDENTS IN USSR--Ghanaian students in the Soviet Union have declared their full support for the June 4 Revolution. In a congratulatory message to the Chairman, Flt-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings, and members of the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC), sent through the Ghana Embassy in Moscow the students said: "It is our firm conviction that taking up arms for Ghanaian freedom and unity is not a product of cruel and selfish intention." "It is seen as an act, the crystallization of conscientious study to deliver the oppressed." The students held the view that revolutionary warfare was the logical and inevitable answer to the political, economic and social situation in Ghana today, and emphasized that "we either fight in unity or fall helplessly to the stinging paws of neo-colonialism." [Excerpts] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 18 Jul 79 p 8]

PNP PURGE ACCOMPLISHED--Dr Hilla Limann, President-elect, declared in Accra yesterday that the People's National Party (PNP) had carried out a house-cleaning exercise within its ranks before the June 18 parliamentary elections. This, he said, was evidenced by the number of new faces the party fielded during the election. Answering questions at a crowded press conference at the Ambassador Hotel, Dr Limann said it would, therefore, be wrong for people to insist that only the PNP should purge its ranks. "Other areas outside the PNP are filthier," he added. On Cabinet posts for people from other political parties, Dr Limann said until the party exhausted its resources he did not think it would be advisable for the PNP to abandon its programme by going in for new faces. [Excerpt] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 19 Jul 79 p 1]

COCOA PRICE INCREASE--The producer price of cocoa has been increased from £80 per load of 30 kilograms to £120 with immediate effect. Subsidies on inputs such as spraying machines and insecticides have, however, been removed. Announcing this at a press conference in Accra [words illegible] Commissioner for Cocoa Affairs, said the increase was one of measures being taken by the Government to reactivate the country's declining cocoa industry and hoped that farmers would take advantage of it to attend to their cocoa farms to increase output. It is also expected that the increase in price would stop or minimize smuggling of cocoa across the country's borders, he said. [Excerpt] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 20 Jul 79 p 1]

UNPRODUCTIVE COCOA TREES--About 58 percent of cocoa trees in the country have passed the productive stage, Mr E. K. Gyasi, chief cocoa officer, has announced in Kumasi. Speaking to newsmen after a tour of some cocoa farms in the Ashanti Region, Mr Gyasi said that about 27 percent of old cocoa trees were still productive. The remaining 15 percent were in their tender stages, and efforts were being made by the Cocoa Projects Division of the CMB to rehabilitate some of the farms, he said. [Excerpt] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 23 Jul 79 p 1]

STATEMENT ON MODE OF DRESSING--It has come to the notice of the authorities that certain persons including soldiers, have been going round harassing ladies found wearing certain dresses including jeans and trousers. The Armed Forces Revolutionary Council in a statement yesterday, said those engaged in this shameful act had not been authorized to do so. "They are detractors of the Revolution," the statement said. The statement warns that anyone caught in this act would be made to face the full rigors of the law. It said that Ghana is a free society and as such everybody no matter his sex, had the right to wear the dress of his or her choice so long as these dresses did not smark of indecency. Even if they did, the appropriate law enforcement agency, that is the Police Force, would be expected to deal with the situation, the statement said. [Text] [Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 26 Jul 79 p 3]

CSO: 4420

GUINEA-BISSAU

CABRAL IN GDR PRAISES SALT-II AGREEMENT

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 27 Jun 79 p 8

[Text] Berlin, 26 June--According to ANGOP, the president of the State Council of the GDR, Erich Honecker, met in this city with Luis Cabral, the president of Guinea-Bissau, who is now visiting the GDR.

The two presidents said that the agreement on limitation of offensive strategic weapons, SALT-II, signed by Leonid Brezhnev, the president of the Presidium and Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and U.S. President James Carter, represents great progress on the road to consolidation of peace and security.

The two chiefs of state expressed their desire that upon this document becoming effective the arms race will cease and the agreement will lead to the reduction of military potentialities.

The two leaders also spoke in favor of the consolidation of anti-imperialist and freedom-loving forces which are struggling to maintain peace and elimination and definitive suppression of colonialism, racism and apartheid.

The PSUA [expansion unknown] and PAIGC reiterated their support to the liberation struggle of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front (FP), SWAPO and ANC of South Africa. Presidents Erich Honecker and Luis Cabral also denounced imperialist intrigues against the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia.

11635
CSO: 4401

GUINEA-BISSAU

USSR DELEGATION DISCUSSES PRESS QUESTIONS

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 28 Jun 79 p 2

[Text] "We believe that information workers are persons who are in the vanguard of the ideological line of the party and state in the new society," said Comrade Valeri Bulianov, an official of the Department of Information and Propaganda of the CPSU, at a meeting with workers of spoken and written press of Guinea-Bissau at the party headquarters Friday evening.

Valeri Bulianov has been visiting us for some days as a member of the delegation of the working group of the CPSUCC. This expert in party information of the Soviet Union has already met with the chief editors of the newspaper NO PINTCHA and the National Broadcasting Station. He also met with comrades of the party school and with the JAAC [Amilcar Cabral African Youth] leaders in Bissau.

The meeting with information workers at the party headquarters was characterized by frank and fruitful discussion among the participants on topics of information of interest to both countries, with greater emphasis on the discussion of matters such as objectivity of reports.

Speaking of these questions, Comrade Bulianov, after making reference to the press apparatus of the USSR and its connection with the information committees and departments, said that the press in no way can be considered independently from the problems of society because, basically, we are dealing with a class problem.

11635
CSO: 4401

GUINEA-BISSAU

BRIEFS

INSURANCE SECTOR NATIONALIZED--Bissau, 25 June--The government of Guinea-Bissau has decided to nationalize the insurance sector, and this market will be taken over by a public firm to be created shortly. This measure will mean the cessation, as of 31 December, of the activities of the Portuguese "Ultramarina" insurance company, which still maintains offices in Bissau. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 24 Jun 79 p 5] 11635

TENTATIVE CENSUS RESULTS--The population (tentative) of Guinea-Bissau is 777,214, of whom 402,188 are women and 375,026 are men. As we can see there are more women than men. The city of Bissau has 109,486 inhabitants, representing close to 14 percent of the total population of the country. The population, by regions, is as follows: Bafata, 117,202; Biombo (formerly Bissau), 57,724; Bolama-Bijagos, 25,713; Buba, 35,360; Cacheu, 134,108; Gabu, 105,500; Oio, 137,595; and Tombali, 54,526. The definitive count will be published at the beginning of 1980. The above figures are tentative because they were counted by hand and represent only totals. The final results will be counted electronically by computers and may present some variations as compared with the results we are publishing today. [Excerpt] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 23 Jun 79 p 1] 11635

PORTUGUESE AGRICULTURAL, TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATION--Lisbon, 26 June--The Republic of Guinea-Bissau and the Republic of Portugal are determined to intensify bilateral cooperation in search of solutions for development problems in the fields of telecommunications, agriculture and fisheries. In this context, the Guinea-Bissau commissioner for posts and telecommunications, Ferreira Fortes, today held talks with the administration of the CTT [Post Office and Telecommunications] of Portugal. As to agriculture, during the past few days talks between a Portuguese and Guinean technical commission were held in Bissau about the expansion of their cooperation; in the sector of fisheries, a Portuguese mission of the State Secretariat for Fisheries will also travel to Lisbon shortly. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 26 Jun 79 p 8] 11635

OFFICIAL TO YUGOSLAVIA--Comrade Alberto Lima Gomes, the state commissioner for public works, construction and city planning, who is now visiting Yugoslavia, was received in Belgrade by the Yugoslav vice president, Lazar Kolisevski, on Thursday. The talks between the two leaders dealt with strengthening of relations between Guinea-Bissau and Yugoslavia in the economic, scientific, and technical fields. [Text] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 23 Jun 79 p 1] 11635

GUINEA-BISSAU-GUINEA RELATIONS--Bi-sau, 29 June--Saude Maria, the state commissioner for foreign affairs of Guinea-Bissau, today left for the neighboring Guinea-Conakry for a 3-day visit. According to well informed sources, the visit represents an initiative of Guinea-Bissau to improve its relations with Guinea-Conakry. The relations between the two countries became strained about 4 years ago because of some incidents and misunderstandings based on a dispute about the demarcation of their common maritime borders. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 30 Jun 79 p 10] 11635

CSO: 4401

ABIDJAN PORT AUTHORITY STUDIES CONGESTION PROBLEM, DEVELOPMENT

Abidjan INFORMATION in French 3 Aug 79 pp 1-4 AB

[Publication of AGENCE IVOIRIENNE DE PRESSE]

[Excerpts] The administrative council of the Abidjan Port Authority (PAA) held an ordinary session yesterday afternoon and approved the implementation of the budget and the financial reports on the preceding period's activities, noting a return of 2.149 billion [currency not specified, presumably CFA francs] on an investment of 4.86 billion for the year 1978. The activity report also reveals a total of 8,330,806 tons of traffic compared to 7,863,333 tons in 1977.

The members of the council examined the question of the "franchise time," or the length of time merchandise remains in the port area, which fluctuates greatly at the port of Abidjan. The authorized time for import or export is 10 days, except for merchandise originating from or destined for countries without a seacoast: Upper Volta, Niger and Mali. Mr Ibo, director general of the port, indicated in this regard that average duration tended to be about 22 days during 1978. The congestion created by this situation occasioned the setting up of an interministerial commission charged with searching for remedies. On the other hand, it is also a question of finding a formula to avoid billing only the final customer for transit expenses. This commission met on many occasions in order to determine the many factors likely to reduce congestion. It made the following proposals:

- easing procedures and strengthening the customs staff;
- modification of the manifest;
- revision of procedures;
- creation of bonded warehouses outside the dockyard;
- establishment of a parking lot for automobiles, which cause congestion.

These measures are expected to improve movement of traffic.

Irreversible Rhythm of Growth

Considered as the dispersal point for West Africa, the port of Abidjan is today one stop appreciated by ship owners for its capacity and the quality of its services. Its rapid growth confirms it as the premier commercial port of West Africa. Nearly 1 million tons of merchandise in containers are handled in Abidjan annually, of which 50 percent is for transshipment. Abidjan plays a role as port-of-transit for some countries of the Sahel hinterland. In 1978 it handled 391,354 tons of transit shipments, of which 226,257 tons were for Upper Volta, 160,502 tons were for Mali, and 4,595 tons were for Niger.

The capacity of the port is above average, but nevertheless causes concern with regard to the risk of saturation. Since its opening 30 years ago, its traffic has progressively increased from 701,949 tons to more than 8 million tons today. This tonnage will exceed 10 million tons, according to statistics, as the container terminal that is now under construction will take 4 million tons when it becomes operational this year. When completed, this Vridi terminal will provide 800 meters of dock. The overall cost of operations is 7 billion CFA francs, entirely financed from the funds of the Abidjan Port Authority.

Horizon 1980-81

It is worth noting that the realization of the "container terminal" at the southern end of the Vridi embankment will saturate the site of the Port of Abidjan. The study of the third "direction plan" proposes three possible solutions:

- the southern part of the Locodjro Peninsula;
- Boulay Island;
- the west bank of Vridi Canal

For the immediate future, the Locodjro site, which has been retained, is the object of thorough studies for construction. The two other options will thus constitute future extension phases. One thousand meters of supplementary docks are provided for at Locodjro in order to face the rapid growth of traffic. Locodjro will also have specialized installations, among which will be an ore port, a sugar terminal, a second fishing port, a second container terminal, etc.

CSO: 4400

GARISSA GOODS SHORTAGE DENIED

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 30 Jul 79 p 5

[Excerpt] Garissa DC Mr C. K. Githinji has rapped people who complained against shortage of essential goods in Garissa while the country had surplus.

He told a traders' meeting at Garissa township that such people were raising false alarm while Kenya had enough food for everyone.

The meeting, attended by wholesalers, retailers and consumers, was organised to find solutions to the shortage of essential goods at Garissa town.

Several traders complained that there had been an acute shortage of goods since May this year.

Calling for more supplies, wholesalers complained that their allocation had been reduced by the depot management.

The chairman of Garissa County Council, Coun. Mohamed Haji, said traders in the area should be allowed to conduct their businesses like those in other parts of the country, "if we are to end the shortage".

The DC said the depot was established by the Maize and Produce Board on recommendation by the Government to ensure that sufficient food was available in the area.

He said since May the depot has dished out to wholesalers 28,300 bundles of maize meal, 5,000 bags of sugar, 12,000 bags of wheat flour, 2,388 packets of 20 kilo rice and 1,672 bags of grade two rice.

He said arrangements have been made for special supplies of foodstuffs in the area during the month of Ramadhan.

CSO: 4420

END TO COTTON BOYCOTT URGED

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 31 Jul 79 p 3

[Text]

LEADERS in Meru District, who have incited farmers to boycott selling their cotton until prices have increased have been blasted by DC E. G. Karanja.

Addressing cotton growers from all over the district at the Gaitu Ginnery at the weekend, Mr. Karanja called on Meru people to reject such instructions and start delivering their cotton to buying centres without delay.

The meeting was organised to try to end the boycott.

The farmers also want the Meru Cotton Growers Co-operative Society to be split and the current management committee dissolved. They claim the society has failed to serve them satisfactorily.

The DC who was accompanied by the general manager of the Cotton Board, Mr. J. Kigunda, the head of the crop production division in the Ministry of Agriculture, Mr. H. G. Waithaka, and other officials, pointed out that the Government had no intention of increasing cotton prices again at this time.

He reminded farmers that only recently the price of Grade One cotton had been raised from 3/45 to 3/65 a kg. while that of Grade Two remained at 1/70.

On splitting the Meru Cotton Growers' Society, he said that he would call a meeting to consider the issue.

He warned the growers to beware of characters out to mislead them and poison the good relations between Meru people and the Government.

He said that whatever their problems, these should be resolved through consultation. There was no need for boycotts.

Mr. Kigunda said cotton prices in Kenya were the highest in Africa, further increases would put Kenya out of the world market.

He reminded Meru farmers that prices were uniform throughout the country and their boycott would not force the Government to give in.

A further extension of the boycott would only hurt themselves, he said.

—END

CSO: 4420

KENYA

ANGLICAN CHURCH ACCUSED OF ENCOURAGING TRIBALISM

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 30 Jul 79 p 4

[Excerpt] Attorney-General Charles Njonjo has accused the Anglican Church of encouraging tribalism by appointing leaders on tribal lines.

He appealed to the Church to drop the "unfortunate" attitude which, he said, was opposed to President Moi's condemnation of tribalism.

Mr Njonjo made the accusation yesterday when he presided over a mammoth Harambee drive which netted 1,361,912/- in aid of the Diocese of Mount Kenya East at Moi Stadium Embu.

The money will be used to build a cathedral in Embu town and a Bible school for the clergy at Kabare in Kirinyaga District among other projects.

Paying tribute to the Catholic Church for discarding tribalism in its leadership, the Attorney-General called on other churches to follow suit and help the Government build a united and happy nation.

"You should leave politics entirely to politicians and if you feel you must play part in politics you should resign immediately from Church leadership," Njonjo said.

CSO: 4420

KENYA

NJONJO HAILS SIKH COMMUNITY

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 28 Jul 79 p 5

[Text] Attorney-General Charles Njonjo yesterday praised the Sikh community for their involvement in the country's development.

Mr Njonjo was speaking when he received a 20,000/-donation for the Heart Foundation of Kenya from the Ramgarhia Sikh Association. Mr Njonjo is the chairman of the foundation.

The association's chairman, Mr Parminder Singh Sagoo, presented the cheque to Mr Njonjo, accompanied by the secretary Mr Gurmit Singh Soor and association members Pritam Chaggar, Surjeet Nandhra and Avtar Singh.

Also present at the ceremony was Mr Sharad Rao, the secretary of the Heart Foundation.

Mr Sagoo said the donation was just one of the things the association would do for the country.

Mr Njonjo said the Sikh community had identified themselves with every development activity particularly in building, arts and crafts.

"The donation would enable some of our people to be treated by eminent doctors," Mr Njonjo said. He said more heart specialists would be coming to Kenya soon to help people with heart problems.

CSO: 4420

PRESIDENT PRAISES JAPANESE AID

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 31 Jul 79 pp 1, 20

[Excerpt] The President has said Kenya's policy of peaceful co-existence with other nations has transformed the country's economy so that it is self-reliant in many fields.

But Mr Moi reminded Kenyans that, in changing to an industrial state, the policy of labour-intensive manpower development must be pursued.

Addressing a huge crowd that gathered at the 500-acre site of the multi-million shillings Jomo Kenyatta College of Agriculture and Technology, Gatundu Division, Kiambu District, yesterday, President Moi said:

"We want to be self-reliant in every sphere of development, but cannot do so without external aid."

The President announced that the college was being fully financed by the Government of Japan.

"This is a free gift to which we are not contributing even a cent. I must express Kenya's great appreciation to Japan for the generous assistance extended to us in the planning and development of this college," he said amid cheers from the crowd.

He said Japan had given a grant of Sh. 150 million, along with technical assistance which covered the training of Kenyans later to become lecturers at the Juja college.

He announced that Japan would supply Kenya with 10,000 tons of fertilisers this season, adding: "We are very grateful for this kind offer and indeed for the many other ways in which Japan has helped our country."

The President cited Mombasa's new Nyali Bridge, which is being constructed by Japan, and said this assistance "has made our ties become very close indeed."

NHC CHAIRMAN GIVES DATA ON ONYONKA HOUSING SCHEME

Mbela's Statement

Nairobi SUNDAY NATION in English 29 Jul 79 p 5

[Article by Dorothy Kweyu]

[Text] The housing problem in Kenya is so big that whatever the National Housing Corporation is doing is just a drop in the ocean.

This was stated by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Housing and Social Services, Mr Darius Mbela, who is also NHC chairman, in Nairobi last week.

In the recent allocation at the Onyonka Mortgage Housing scheme, there were 943 applicants for only 282 houses, "and obviously in such a situation, you don't want to ballot blindly," Mr Mbela said.

Applications were filed in provinces on a quota basis. Rift Valley with the highest population, was allocated 57 houses while the thinly peopled North-Eastern Province had six houses.

He gave the number of applications received in relation to provincial quotas as follows: Central, 303 to 42; Coast, 46 to 25; Eastern, 131 to 45; North-Eastern, 10 to 6; Nyanza, 223 to 54; Rift Valley, 83 to 57; Western 104 to 35, and Nairobi, 43 to 18.

"In deciding the provincial quotas, we look at where one's home is, and in this context, Nubians would be regarded as indigenous to Nairobi," he said, with a "but" that if other applicants stated Nairobi as their home province, they were regarded as such.

Ballot

Individual allocations were determined by the ballot. Giving as an example Central Province, which had the most applicants, he said that all the 303 were put in a ballot to get their quota of 42.

"In other areas, we had to have a glance at people from the real remote areas," whom Mr Mbela said were given priority.

This was done to ensure a balanced distribution, he said.

The scheme, Mr Mbela said, caters for those in an income bracket of K3,500 to K6,000 annually.

Asked what NHC was doing for the lower-income groups, he said those were normally catered for "in conjunction with Nairobi City Council."

Pleading their case, Mr Mbela said "our limitation is money. We are trying very hard to plead to get money from the NSSF (National Social Security Fund)".

They have submitted their request through the Treasury, "but unfortunately so far we have not got much sympathy from them," he said.

Should they have allocated houses to those outside the country who are not immediately in need of them?

"They are only temporarily out serving the country. If the houses are here, they can be rented until the owners are back," he said.

'Strange Way of Doing Things'

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 30 Jul 79 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text]

WHENEVER houses are allocated in a new project, be it Government-sponsored or civic, there is controversy. So it is with the new Onyonka Mortgage Housing Scheme. There are certain aspects of the allocation of these 282 houses — there were a total of 943 applications for them — which are patently in need of investigation. Indeed, hawk-eyed readers of this newspaper and other members of the public are already asking questions, and they are entitled to do so.

The houses were allotted, we are told, on a provincial quota basis. It seems a strange way of doing things. What matters is that the needs of people living and working in Nairobi should be catered for, so provincialism should have no place in a scheme of this kind. Indeed, with under a thousand applications there should have been no difficulty screening each one of them thoroughly and allocating the houses on the basis of genuine need.

The people who qualified for the houses were required to have been in the £3,500 to £6,000 a year income bracket. The main conditions that applicants had to comply with were they did not already own a house and that they would occupy the premises if they were successful. Size of one's family was another major consideration.

These three conditions would appear to be the most important. Yet perusal of the published list of successful applicants indicates that several of them already own houses, some more than one. One does not need to engage in high-power sleuthing to prove this. Allegations have also been made that more than one house has been allocated to members of one family, that sisters have been allowed to pool their salaries in order to qualify, and that the principle that these houses, like any others built by public sector undertakings, should provide the greatest benefit to the greatest number will not apply.

Members of the public are asking questions. Like these from one person:

"In the (application) form one had to state the number and ages of children one had who were going to live in the house. Was this necessary if the houses were to be allocated to 'little misses' who can live in hostels or with their parents?

"The successful applicants appear mainly to be from the Government side. Does it mean that people in the private sector are not true Kenyans, or are not contributing towards the economic and social welfare of this country?

"Civil servants have Racecourse Rd. estate all to themselves, leave alone numerous Government houses. Why must they have the lion's share of these houses?"

These are valid questions. Something appears to have gone wrong somewhere along the line. Because the housing shortage is what it is, and because paucity of financial resources does not permit the Government to proceed in this direction at as fast a pace as it would like, it is very important that every single housing unit allocated, either on rental basis or as part of tenant-purchase schemes, goes only to those who need the accommodation and qualify for it — not to those who already have accommodation or own their own houses, and certainly not to those who are already in the financial big league and are only being assisted, by being allocated such houses, to become more acquisitive.

The Ministry of Housing and Social Services owes the public some explanations. In view of the discontent the allocations have generated, is it prepared to re-examine the allocations and permit closer scrutiny of the list of successful applications? What is the rationale for the provincial quota system? Will it or will it not disqualify all those who can be proved already to be house owners?

DEBATE ON MARRIAGE BILL 'TO RAGE ON' FOR LONG TIME

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 28 Jul 79 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text] So the Male Chauvinist Pigs have had their way! The controversial Marriage Bill has been "killed" for the third time and cannot be brought before the House for another six months at least.

The debate in the National Assembly has ended, for the time being, but it will rage on in the columns of our newspapers and journals, in public forums and on public platforms for a long time to come. And that will be a good thing because it will give all concerned, including our women, both urban and rural, affluent and poor, an opportunity to say their piece.

Members of Parliament, four women outnumbered by a multitude of men, have had their say. It is only fair, in view of the importance of the issue and the strength of feeling the Bill has generated, that people everywhere also have a chance to "blow their tops". If, as one MP said, passage of the Bill would have meant "our customs are being thrown to the dogs", he is putting forward a theory which the vast majority of Kenyan women may not find acceptable. If, as another MP said, the male Members of the National Assembly are the sole protectors of the rights of women, the only upholders of the country's culture and traditions, this too may be an unacceptable thesis.

MPs are important people and they are in Parliament to perform important duties, though not all of them live up to their role, but they are not the sole deciders of what is good and what is bad for the people of Kenya. It is the people of this country who are paramount. It is they who vote in or vote out elected representatives. MPs must do the people's will. It is all very well to say that our culture and our traditions must be retained, but is all culture good? And must all our traditions remain unchanged for all time?

The whole world is on the move, and Kenya is no exception. And that means change. If there must be change let there not also be prevarication; delay can spell disaster. We must retain our traditions, but why hang on to the

whole lot, good and bad? The Marriage Bill sought to codify the traditions as they operate in this particular field, but at the same time to do a bit of surgery and do away with aspects which are retrograde and not in keeping with the 20th Century world in which we all live.

It is obvious that many MPs, fearing they would incur the wrath of their peers outside the Chamber by their opposition to the Bill, and fearing also that this wrath would in turn affect their fortunes at the polls on election day, used their backbench voting strength to put off the evil day. When the Bill is brought before Parliament again, as it must, we trust a greater sense of realism, and concern for the welfare of others, will prevail and that there will be not too much talk of hide-bound traditions. Some of them are obsolete and there is no room for them in the modern Kenya.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

VOTER REGISTRATION STATISTICS ISSUED--The Office of the President yesterday released up-to-date figures on the registration of voters exercise which ended on July 22. A total of 5,529,571 people had been registered at the end of the exercise out of the eligible target of 6,432,830 voters representing 85.96 per cent of the target. Out of the eight provinces, Rift Valley is leading, having registered 1,160,884 voters representing 90.13 per cent of the total 1,288,000 eligible voters in the province. Second on the list is Eastern Province (950,331 voters), Nyanza Province (884,619 voters), Central Province (840,343 voters), Western Province (677,187 voters), Coast Province (551,791 voters), Nairobi (361,724 voters) and North-Eastern Province (102,692 voters). Average turnout against the estimated targets in the districts were all above 65 per cent. [Text] [Nairobi SUNDAY NATION in English 29 Jul 79 p 3]

INDIA TO ESTABLISH TEXTILE UNIT--Kenya and India signed an agreement yesterday to set up a Sh. 30 million textile training unit at the Directorate of Industrial Training in Nairobi. The Kenya Government was represented by the Director of Industrial Training, Mr S. Odera-Oteng, while the Indian government was represented by the First Secretary in the High Commission, Mr L. Keivom. Mr Oteng said the unit will be operational in 1980 and will cater for manpower training requirements of Kenya's expanding textile industry. He noted that the Indian government gives scholarships to students to study in India. Mr Keivom said economic and technical co-operation between Kenya and India has been growing to mutual benefit. He said that in 1978, more than 400 Kenyans went to India to study and train in various fields. He added that this was a practical manifestation of transfer of technology taking place between two developing countries. [Text] [Nairobi SUNDAY NATION in English 29 Jul 79 p 3]

CENSUS SCHEDULED 24-25 AUGUST 1979--Plans for Kenya's next population census, to be held on the night of August 24-25, are being finalised, SUNDAY NATION learnt from the Nairobi Provincial Commissioner, Mr Paul Boit, last week. [Excerpt] [Nairobi SUNDAY NATION in English 29 Jul 79 p 5]

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH BULGARIA--Mario Machungo, member of the FRELIMO Permanent Political Committee and minister of agriculture, ended yesterday his visit to the People's Republic of Bulgaria during which a cooperation agreement was signed. The agreement between the two countries will remain in force until 1990 and pertains to the development of cooperation in the fields of agriculture and hydroelectric engineering. Among the various projects aimed at the economic development of our country, Bulgaria will build in Mozambique agro-industrial complexes, industrial units in the food sector, livestock complexes and irrigation systems. These projects are specifically intended for improved exploitation of the resources of the Limpopo Valley and the Angonia Plateau. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 25 Jul 79 p 1]

NATIONAL DIALECTS STUDY--Beira--A team of professors and students from Eduardo Mondlane University is visiting the province of Manica in order to study the Chitewe and Chimanhica national dialects. The study, which constitutes part of the July Activities, will take place throughout the country and is aimed at the modernization and uniformization of the national dialects, as well as improvement in the understanding of party orientations and of the revolutionary and socioeconomic transformation of Mozambican society. Moreover, the study is aimed at improving the quality of information in the communal villages in the information and educational fields. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 26 Jul 79 p 3]

PORTUGUESE OFFICIAL'S VISIT--Brig Franco Charais, member of the Council of the Revolution of Portugal, arrived yesterday in the Mozambican capital. This high-ranking Portuguese official is in Mozambique on a private visit. He was received at Mavalane airport by Valeriano Ferrao, secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 25 Jul 79 p 1]

AIR COOPERATION WITH KOREA--The People's Republic of Mozambique and the People's Democratic Republic of Korea officially concluded yesterday an agreement in the field of air transports. The agreement was signed by Minister Jose Luis Cabaco and Ambassador Song Ki Te, representing Mozambique and Korea respectively. Both sides stressed that this agreement constitutes further proof of the two nations' and peoples' desire to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 25 Jul 79 p 1]

NEW AG: RECOGNIZED SETTLEMENT IS FIRST PRIORITY

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 2 Aug 79 p 1

[Text]

THE SURPRISE move to replace Mr Justice Steyn with Broederbond Chief Professor Gerrit Viljoen has so far drawn non-committal reaction from SWA political leaders.

Most have refrained from going any further than to welcome Professor Viljoen as Judge Steyn's successor.

Despite his Broederbond affiliations Professor Viljoen is regarded as an ultra-verligte within National Party politics.

His appointment could help mend the rift between the verkrampste and moderate Whites in SWA. Mr A H du Plessis and his Aktur group are likely to find it easier to talk to the new AG than they did with Mr Justice Steyn.

Aktur in recent months has been quite forthright about its dislike of the Free State Judge.

Last night Mr Mudge, leader of the Republican Party expressed regret at Mr Steyn leaving, but Sapa reports that he also welcomed Professor Viljoen.

Observers feel that many questions remain unanswered about the suddenness of the Prime Ministers' announcement although officials have also said, according to Sapa, that the change had been made at the specific request of Mr

Steyn. They admitted that Judge Steyn appeared to have been "disgruntled about something", but declined to pinpoint the problem.

Political observers said that Professor Viljoen was regarded as an extremely verligte Afrikaner intellectual. His appointment had apparently not been specifically to placate disgruntled Whites in the Territory, but they thought part of his task would be to attempt to bring the feuding White factions closer together.

Meanwhile, Mr Steyn's immediate position was not certain at this stage. He was not available for comment today at the time of going to press.

It is also not clear at this stage whether Mr Justice Steyn will hold office until Professor Viljoen arrives, or in which manner the vacuum will be filled.

Mr Justice Steyn will vacate a large modern house in Windhoek when he leaves SWA. The house was bought by the South African Government to house the SA Ambassador in an independent SWA. Until such time, it is being used as the Administrator General's residence.

And what are Professor Viljoen's feelings?

Sapa reports that in Johannesburg last night he said that the priority in SWA was to stress common ground and close ranks against those who were not committed to the democratic process.

Speaking at a press conference held last night, he said he was very "excited" about the prospects of serving the Territory to which he was no stranger.

He had gained the impression he had been appointed to succeed Mr Justice Steyn because he was a figure who had no overt political connections to arouse the suspicion of among leaders in SWA.

A big priority, as he saw it, was to obtain an internationally recognised settlement for SWA, but not "at any cost". He said it would be presumptuous of him to try and offer final solutions for the Territory's problems at this stage. He would be briefed properly by the Prime Minister, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Mr Justice Steyn before taking office.

He said: "The advantage I have is a fresh mind on the job. That also leaves me with the disadvantage of a fresh mind which I'll have to acquaint itself properly with the details and analyse the situation."

Professor Vujovic said that he had decided that this move was a definite break with the Rand Afrikaanse University which would benefit from getting a new rector and top management team.

"I have decided to take on this task and any others that lie ahead," he said. His task in SWA was to carry out government policy and also to inform the Government in SA of the needs and interests of the people of SWA."

Regarding the present clash among White political factions in the Territory over anti-discriminatory legislation, he said no democratic situation could be expected to have general agreement among parties.

"There is a different approach by each one as to the

ideal way to follow to obtain it." He would try to achieve a general agreement among parties on common priorities.

"Identifying areas of common agreement leads to a lessening of tension in other areas and a greater willingness to give and take. I am not a man who believes in rigid rules and regulations." Formality stifled discussions, he said, and he was more in favour of informal discussions as a method of negotiation. If rules hampered progress they should be changed.

Asked what his attitude would be should his application of SA Government policy clash with the National Assembly, he said that conflicting interests would call for leadership and rational analysis of all the facts of the conflict.

"I have great admiration... the pioneering spirit that prevails among the people of SWA. Their ingenuity and resourcefulness. They have let themselves into a tremendous new and uncertain future and only pioneers can do this."

He did not feel that his connections with the Broederbond, the National Party or any other body would affect his task. "Personal, political and religious convictions should not impede a mediator", he said.

EDITOR COMMENTS ON REPLACEMENT OF AG

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 2 Aug 79 p 3

[Editorial by Leon Kok: "Did Steyn Get the Chop"?]

[Text]

THE PM's announcement yesterday about the resignation of the AG Mr Justice MT Steyn and his replacement by Prof Gerrit Viljoen certainly caught everyone off balance.

Three important questions arise:

● Why did Judge Steyn resign?

● Why has the SA Government chosen Prof Viljoen to succeed Judge Steyn?

● And what is Prof Viljoen likely to make of the job?

Judge Steyn's apparent reason of wanting to move into thankful and grateful obscurity and return to the Bench and his farm in the OFS is somewhat hard to believe.

The indications are strongly that he got the chop.

It is highly probable that the Botha Government believes that Judge Steyn has gone too far in alienating Akrur's support and cooperation in working out the future destiny of SWA.

It is perhaps felt that Judge Steyn alone will not be able to restore Akrur's confidence in himself while this in turn could have severe repercussions for both SA and SWA. The AG is the chief representative of the Government of SA in the Territory.

Akrur particularly resents Judge Steyn's alleged bias towards the DTA, having had its greatest reservations about the Judge's handling of the December election, the establishment of the Constituent and National Assemblies and his stand on the anti-discrimination Bill.

It is debatable however whether PM Botha is sympathetic towards Akrur; I don't think he is. But I do believe that Mr Botha recognises the importance of Akrur as a political component in SWA.

Indeed, Botha fully realises that Akrur is representative of the majority of Whites in SWA; he realises that these Whites are needed to develop and defend the country; it is important to him that they play a significant role in his envisaged establishment of a constellation of states in Southern Africa; and last but not least, he is reluctant to ignore the strong Afrikaner connection between SA and SWA.

The last of these factors is extremely emotionally charged and could potentially become a painful factor for the SA National Party in SA politics. Akrur leaders have already indicated an intent to exploit conservative sentiment in SA.

Against this background Gerrit Viljoen has obviously been brought in to restore Akrur's confidence in the office of the AG and to nurture conciliation between Akrur and the other parties, particularly the DTA.

This however will be no mean job. Differences between White leaders that were once minute have become massive rifts. On top of this are the tremendous feelings of betrayal and suspicion while the play of political mischief has become the order of the day.

Nevertheless, Gerrit Viljoen being the Super-Afrikaner that he is, is clearly regarded as being the person best qualified to achieve the almost impossible, to reconcile the differences and give the Afrikaner in SWA the same sort of sense of mission that he had say five years ago.

Indeed, Viljoen's credentials as an Afrikaner are impeccable: he is chairman of the Executive of the Broederbond, he is a Super-Nat, he is intellectually bright, he holds down an important position as Rector of RAU and he has an impressive general track record.

Born 53 years ago, Gerrit Viljoen was educated at Pretoria Afrikaanse Hoër Seunskool, Pretoria University and Kings College Cambridge. He also attended Ryksuniversiteit in Leiden and Sorbonne in Paris.

His speciality is classics (having taught it at Unisa for many years) and he is said to have been the most brilliant SA student to have attended Cambridge after Smuts. He has an LL B, two MA's and a D Litt et Phil.

Gerrit Viljoen has always been politically ambitious and this latest appointment can certainly be regarded as the start of a successful political career. I am willing to bet that it will not be long before Prof Viljoen is drawn into the SA Cabinet and I'm also willing to suggest that he will ultimately be a strong contender for the Premiership in the Republic.

Aktur however is in for a rude awakening if it thinks that it has an extremely conservative ally coming to its aid. Gerrit Viljoen is extremely verlig, ultra-verlig. He certainly does not represent the sort of support that Aktur enjoys in the Republic at present.

He has spearheaded talks in SA between leading Afrikaner leaders and leading Urban Black leaders (notably Dr Nthato Motlana) and between leading Afrikaner leaders and Inkatha leaders (notably Chief Gatsha Buthelezi).

Significantly, he has declined to discount speculation that the new constitutional dispensation in SA will include Blacks and he recently stirred up a hornets nest in Afrikaner circles by suggesting that there should be a re-think on both the Immorality and Mixed Marriages Acts.

As far as SWA is concerned, it is my guess that Prof

Viljoen will be far more closely aligned to DTA thinking than to Aktur thinking, but he will nevertheless make every effort to bring Aktur back into the constitutional mainstream again. He would be reluctant to have a hand in a Great Trek south.

I also have every reason to believe that he will be instructed by PM Botha to be tough, real tough with the fifth column that is emerging among our ranks and to which the PM referred on Saturday.

One thing is certain, however, Prof Viljoen has no chance whatsoever in the hurly burly of SWA politics if he thinks he can remain neutral. The pressures will be too great.

When I asked Judge Steyn a few months ago whether he thought it was possible to remain completely neutral, he replied: "I was completely neutral and I still try to be completely neutral. But the longer one governs and the more decisions you take, the more you yourself become a political target. And the more you become a target, the more difficult it is to maintain neutrality."

"On the other hand I regard the concept of neutrality as being one where you listen to all sides, not favouring one or the other, then making your decision on the facts which must bear a direct relation to your decision. And if your decision then does favour one party or the other, then that is by the way."

Judge Steyn of course has not been everyone's cup of tea in SWA, but I believe that he

has made an extremely valuable contribution to the political and constitutional development of the country.

Besides, he will certainly be remembered for his pleasant personality, dignity, reason and tolerance of opposition.

I have little doubt that Judge Steyn will return to the Bench in Bloemfontein. He told me recently: "The law is a very jealous mistress. Having been captured by it, though not spoilt, I find it a very satisfying profession".

And of his farm, 'Onze Rust' near Bloemfontein, his other great love he remarked: "My farm balances my job as a judge. One must not do nothing when one relaxes because then you don't forget the other task."

"Indeed, I find that if you are in the concentrated atmosphere of a court of law all day, the perfect foil is not to go out and sit in the pub and have a scotch, or to sit reading a book, but to go out and attend to the cattle or sheep, or just walk around, or get the tractor and do some ploughing".

And finally his greatest wish? "For the people of SWA to achieve mutual happiness and prosperity".

We say to the Judge: "Thank you, we wish you well too. Your services have been greatly appreciated".

And to Prof Viljoen: "Welcome. We hope that you will be able to live up to what is expected of you. Your success will be our success. Your progress will be watched by us with the utmost interest. Good luck".

MUDGE: P.W. BOTHA'S OFFER TO MEDIATE MUST BE ACCEPTED

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 2 Aug 79 p 3

[Text]

WINDHOEK: The South African Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha's offer to mediate in political disputes and eliminate confusion in SWA should be taken up as soon as possible, Mr Dirk Mudge, chairman of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, the ruling party in the National Assembly, said here last night.

Mr Botha had made the offer during a speech at Upington in the northern Cape last weekend.

In a statement, Mr Mudge said Mr Botha had made a number of points absolutely clear in his speech, but there were still points being disputed in SWA.

It was in the general interest that these be cleared up as soon as possible.

"It is my considered opinion that the offer by the Hon Prime Minister to be available personally to eliminate the confusion among Southwesterners should be taken up as soon as possible," Mr Mudge said.

He mentioned issues such as the status of the one man one vote elections here last December, the status of the National Assembly and the second tier, representative

authorities for the different population groups and the elimination of discriminatory measures.

Other points to be clarified were the functions and areas of jurisdiction of the representative authorities and the vesting of executive powers in the National Assembly.

This did not mean that he wanted achievements so far in the Territory undone, Mr Mudge said.

These achievements, politically, were in line with previous decisions and the DTA was prepared to subject this to a "frank discussion."

Mr Mudge said the DTA had accepted that certain areas in SWA belonged to certain groups.

But the DTA also accepted that many members of certain population groups lived outside their so-called traditional areas and wished to take them into consideration in any future state dispensation.

Punitive measures attached to the anti-discrimination legislation would only be applied once the Administrator General had decided on a date.

CSO: 4420

GELDENHUYS ANNOUNCES SECURITY FORCES KILL NINETY

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 2 Aug 79 p 1

[Article by Paul Lange]

[Text]

IN A BRILLIANTLY successful week of follow-up operations the security forces killed 35 terrorists, the Officer Commanding SWA, Maj Gen J J Geldenhuys, announced today.

There were no losses on the part of the security forces.

This brings the total number of terrorists killed in July to 90.

These outstanding results have been attributed to fast reaction by the security forces to information they have received and lightning follow-up operations.

However terrorists managed to abduct 18 civilians in three incidents during the past week.

Terrorists commandeered the light truck of a Mr Matuete Aluvilo and abducted him. They crossed the border in the stolen vehicle. Six women and four men were forced into Angola by terrorists in a separate incident.

On yet another occasion a further seven civilians were abducted. Terrorists murdered one man last week. He was Mr Kornelius Martin, a tribal servant in the Shangwena tribal offices. He was taken from his kraal by terrorists. Mr Martin was then shot with an AK47. His body was found two kilometres away from his home.

There was also an attempt by terrorists to sabotage a

pipeline but they caused minimal damage.

A contact 500 metres south of the SWA/Angola border claimed the lives of nine terrorists. The remainder of the group of terrorists fled back into Angola.

During a routine visit to a kraal by the security forces a man was seen to run out from the kraal. The patrol believed he was running to warn terrorists in the vicinity of the security force presence. The patrol followed the man and a terrorist hideout was found. Six terrorists were killed in the incident.

In several less spectacular and smaller incidents nine terrorists were killed.

COUNCIL DECIDES AGAINST HOLDING OPINION POLL

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 31 Jul 79 p 1

[Article by Paul Lange]

Text]

WINDHOEK City Council will not hold an opinion poll amongst ratepayers to determine their attitude towards the new anti-discriminatory legislation which allows Blacks to live in White areas.

"The Council remains unanimously opposed to the new legislation, but as it is now law, there is no point in holding an opinion poll," Cnr Fanie Spies, chairman of the

Management Committee, told the Advertiser this morning.

"There have been no protest meetings against the Council's attitude, so we are sure this is how the ratepayers feel as well," he said.

Originally the management committee had proposed an opinion poll be conducted. The Council agreed, but after discussions with DTA leaders which revealed the DTA was not prepared to delay the legislation, the committee

returned to the Council and asked that the original proposal be abandoned.

"Even the contractor who was to conduct the poll was not altogether positive about its usefulness," Mr Spies said.

This double-take by the Management Committee developed into a furious argument. Cnr JH Greef attacked the Management Committee on their proposal not to hold an opinion poll.

The debate on this matter was held in camera.

"It is quite normal for the Management Committee to advise the Council to withdraw a previous proposal. In fact it is more the rule than the exception.

"But the Council has not changed its attitude and we will continue to investigate ways and means to soft-cushion the effect of the legislation," Cnr Spies said.

Following Mr Greef's attacks on the Management Committee last week the Council yesterday supported a vote of confidence for the committee.

Referring to the vote of confidence Cnr Spies said it was important that the Council work together under the circumstances, particularly in these difficult times.

The Windhoek City Council is expected to drum up support at the forthcoming municipal congress for municipalities throughout SWA to stand together in matters regarding the new legislation.

AKTUR LOSES ASSEMBLY CASE AGAINST KLOPPERS

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 2 Aug 79 p 2

[Text]

WINDHOEK: The Supreme Court here last night dismissed with costs an application by the leader of Aktur, Mr A H du Piessis, seeking to declare vacant the seat in the SWA National Assembly of a former Aktur member, Mr Andrew Kloppers.

The court ruled that a finding by the first respondent in the matter, the President of the National Assembly, had been legally valid.

The President of the Assembly was the first respondent. The other respondents were Mr Kloppers and his party, the Liberal Party.

Judgment was handed down by Mr Justice Jan Strydom. The Judge President, Mr Justice Frans Badenhorst, concurred.

Mr Justice Strydom said it had been submitted by counsel for the applicant, Mr Ken Bethune, SC, that Mr Kloppers's seat in the Assembly had become vacant on the day he had decided to break ties with Aktur.

Mr Bethune had argued that the proclamation constituting the National Assembly did not explicitly provide that seats became vacant when members of parties resigned from their parties. But, Mr Bethune had said, such a provision should be read implicitly into the proclamation.

Mr Justice Strydom said one of the tasks of the Administration of Justice was to see that fairness (billikheid) and justice were done.

Unless an act stated the contrary in so many words, it had to be assumed that fairness and justice to all were the intention of legislators, Mr Justice Strydom said.

A speech made by Mr Kloppers in the National Assembly spoke of sincerity and inner conviction when he renounced his Aktur membership because of Aktur's opposition to the anti-discrimination Bill.

Mr Justice Strydom said it would have been a violation of Mr Kloppers's conscience had he voted with Aktur against the anti-discrimination legislation — and that could not have been the intention of the legislator.

The purpose of the Assembly was to pass legislation, and to achieve that aim it was essential to build in freedom of speech and conviction, regardless of party policies.

Mr Kloppers's rights as a member of the National Assembly had nothing to do with his ties with Aktur or the severance of those party ties.

Mr Justice Strydom said the President of the National Assembly had decided correctly that Mr Kloppers had become a member of the National Assembly on the strength of his membership of the old constituent assembly. There was no indication that party ties were prerequisites for membership.

The court subsequently ordered that the President of the National Assembly's ruling was legally valid and a temporary interdict preventing Mr Kloppers from exercising his vote should be lifted.

The applicant had to pay the costs of the hearing except for 90 minutes of court time, which Mr Kloppers had to bear.

Leave was granted to appeal against the ruling. — Sapa

MEAT AGREEMENT COULD KILL SLAUGHTERHOUSE DEAL

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 1 Aug 79 p 1

[Article by Gail Visagie]

Text] An agreement in principle between the Meat Boards of SWA and the Republic has been taken, that if finalised, will not only kill the chances of the multi-million rand meat deal being negotiated by ENOK, but could send meat prices to the local housewife through the ceiling.

The agreement is to supply SA with 250,000 head of cattle a year during the coming three years.

Local experts believe that this commitment is beyond the present production ability of the SWA farmers and can not be met without drastically affecting the home market.

At present ENOK is negotiating with a French company for an abattoir layout in SWA--with an envisaged 400 slaughter capacity per day.

Specialists in the engineering and financial fields are to arrive in Windhoek shortly to study the financial aspects and plans of this project in depth.

ENOK feels that an own abattoir for the Territory would mean extra work for more people and more use could be made of processing by-products locally. In addition the hike in fuel prices has made the transport of cattle on the hoof a very expensive affair.

This deal would not only provide attractive investment capital though the building of the abattoir, but would mean millions of rands a year of welcome foreign exchange in hard European currency.

When approached yesterday about the Meat Board's decision, Mr Walter Louw of ENOK declined to comment.

However, it is understood that if the Meat Board goes ahead with its decision, the ENOK deal will fall through.

Mr Frans Heydenrych, manager of the SWA Meat Trade Control Board strenuously denied any knowledge of such an agreement yesterday when asked. "No, I know nothing about it."

However, when it was mentioned that there had been a memo of a meeting held in Pretoria on July 3, relating to the agreement his comment was: "The contract has not been signed yet. There is no finality as yet."

Informed sources say that a special committee will go into session on August 15 to vie a final decision on the matter.

Mr Heydenrych also said: "The whole meat industry will be involved eventually and then things will be thrashed out. I don't want to say anything at this stage. Everything is still in the pipeline."

The ENOK negotiations have been continuing for some time and the Meat Board certainly knew about them.

The Meat Board must also be aware that disgruntled beef farmers in SWA are cutting back heavily on breeding stock and there is little chance that future production could meet that of past years.

At the abattoir at least 70 percent of the animals slaughtered are cows, may of them in calf.

It is also known that some farmers are selling off their entire stock.

If SWA was committed to supplying SA with 250,000 head of cattle per year, experts believe that this could cause a drastic shortage to the home market and escalating prices to the local housewife.

CSO: 4420

MONOGRAPH ASSESSES VALUE OF NIGERIAN MEMBERSHIP IN OPEC

Lagos NIA MONOGRAPH SERIES in English No 3, 1979 pp 1-18

[Monograph by Ayo Akinbobola: "Should Nigeria Be in OPEC?"]

[Text] Introduction

In recent times, public commentators in general and political economic analysts in particular, have argued with some degree of credibility that the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is virtually outliving its usefulness and is almost on the verge of collapse. Citing the two-tier price system among OPEC countries, the relative ease with which the oil consuming nations can secure oil outside OPEC sources (e.g.) from Alaska, the North Sea, and Mexico, and the fact that Saudi Arabia and her Middle East allies are known to have been playing sub-imperial role for the Western powers, these individuals argue that the political relevance, the strength, and the group solidarity of the Organisation is fast diminishing, and that the participating member-nations had nothing to lose should they opt out of the Organisation.¹ They buttress their argument with the contention that alternative energy sources would also soon be perfected, thus minimizing the importance of petroleum and OPEC. Another corollary position that is increasingly gaining ground is the assumption that OPEC has not been helpful in the oil business generally, and that Nigeria should not have been a member of OPEC in the first place and she should now seriously consider opting out of it.

Given this as a premise, the central question in this study is 'why should Nigeria be in OPEC?'

OPEC: Its Origin and Activities

From all indications, the oil industry has been one of the most lucrative international business that has ever taken place in the world market. Its effect could be felt in all corners of the world. Its postwar history is the story of a continued jockeying among petroleum exporters and the oil majors to divide and appropriate the large profit accruing from oil. In the hey-days of the seven major international oil companies and the oil boom at the end of World War II, the profit accruing from oil was divided unevenly between the oil producing countries which had 18 per cent, and the oil concessionaries which had 82 per cent. The consuming countries, for example, had no reason to complain, since they reaped the competitive benefits of low-price in the form of a marshallian consumer surplus. The low prices also permitted the oil importing countries to finance many of their infrastructural projects through import duties on fuel and very stiff excise taxes on gasoline, thus siphoning off part of the surplus.

While the history of OPEC dates back to about 1949 when, through Venezuela, a consultative meeting of the oil producing nations met, for the first time, to discuss the need for closer communication, the actual formation of the Organisation did not take place until September, 1960 in Baghdad, Iraq, as a response to the oil companies' further reduction of the Middle East posted prices for crude oil from \$0.18 to \$0.14. The five oil-producing States (Venezuela, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq) that participated at the 1949 crucial meeting were later to be the foundation members of OPEC. Its membership has since risen to 13, with Qatar, Indonesia, Libya, Abu Dhabi, Algeria, Nigeria, Ecuador, and Gabon joining later.

It could be argued that OPEC was created principally to enable the oil producers to seek collectively to enhance their bargaining power by standing together in order to prevent the international oil companies from playing one country against the other. Since its formation, OPEC has grown in stature quite quickly and has succeeded in preventing further reductions in posted price levels, thereby ensuring the maintenance of government revenues per barrel of oil produced. It has, also to its credit, successfully negotiated technical changes in methods through which company profits are calculated, thereby increasing each OPEC revenues per barrel produced. In practical sense, its establishment in 1960 significantly served as a turning point in the long struggle by the producers to get their due share from their precious resources. Its activities have since demonstrated that through solidarity, the raw-

material-producing nations can collectively articulate their common interests. Indeed, through its varied activities, its promotion of its members' interests, the Organisation has had more impact on World economic order in recent times than before. Its importance during the oil crisis in 1973/74 when OPEC solidarity in oil pricing was at its peak was so manifest and very overwhelming.² Given the circumstances that gave rise to its establishment, OPEC would appear as the most effective, and well organised raw-material-producing countries that have significantly achieved a measure of control over their products.

What are OPEC's main functions, and how does it organise its varied activities? What benefits accrue to Nigeria, just like any other OPEC member country.

The principal function of OPEC is, firstly, to coordinate and unify the petroleum prices of member-countries and, to determine the best ways of protecting their interests individually and collectively. Secondly, it seeks avenues that ensure the stabilization of prices in international oil markets, with a view to eliminating harmful and unnecessary fluctuation in order to ensure a steady income to the producing nations. It also seeks to promote reasonable margin of profit for those investing in the petroleum industry and, to guarantee an efficient, reasonably prized, and regular supply of petroleum to the consuming nations. In order to serve the interests of the member-nations, the Secretariat of the Organisation offers specialized technical advice to members in the areas of economics, administration, law and technology.³ These are usually the findings of extensive researches conducted by the experts of the Organisation. The OPEC headquarters in Vienna also serves as an economic and statistical analysis office where OPEC members can consult and often share views about petroleum affairs. Unlike other institutions that exercise executive authority with sanctions over members, OPEC head office does not have executive authority to propound laws and regulations enforceable on all members. Operating differently from recognized world cartels, it can neither legally reprimand any member that acts unilaterally nor enforce a ruling against a member that decides to go its way. Even when member-nations are enjoined to reduce or regulate output to prevent market gluts, there is no other means of enforcement except by passionate appeals.

Despite all its constraints, OPEC has achieved significant successes since its establishment. It has not only played an important role in stabilizing posted oil prices and checked further unilateral price reductions by the oil companies, it has, in fact, brought about agreements with the oil companies providing for higher income oil prices and a higher income

tax rate, together with compensation for inflation. It has successfully helped its members in assessing and analysing conditions in the international petroleum field, and trained nationals in the technical and economic aspects of the industry. In order to secure the commanding heights of their economies, OPEC is assisting member-nations to participate in the ownership and management of foreign oil companies operating in member territories.⁴ The arrangements for participation and possible compensation paid back to the oil companies are, however, worked out between each member-nation and its oil companies, while the responsibility for determining the pricing of exported crude oil stays with OPEC. The Organisation has adopted a resolution, in the form of "Declaratory Statement of Petroleum Policy in member Countries," expressing the determination of member-countries to follow lines of petroleum policy. As a recognition of its solidarity with the underdeveloped countries of the world, OPEC has demonstrated its faith in the capability of all peoples to bring about a new economic order via international consultation and cooperation rather than confrontation, and has assisted the poorer nations most seriously affected by recent economic stresses by setting up the OPEC Special Fund, which disburses long-term, interest-free loans to some 45 nations in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. In recognition of the urgency and importance of the food problem in developing countries, OPEC has also allocated \$400 million from its Special Fund as OPEC's contribution to the projected International Fund for Agricultural Development-(IFAD). Judged in terms of its achievement, OPEC would appear to have justified its existence. It has not only shifted power away from the oil companies to itself, it has also minimized the capability of the oil companies to divide and rule the oil-producing States. The Organisation has, to its credit, loosened the oligopolistic grip of the oil companies on world oil production, refining, transportation and marketing, with attendant benefits to the participating members. Every crack in the oligopolistic structure of the oil situation since the establishment of OPEC in 1960 has added a notch to the producers share. All of these achievements have been made possible through a demonstrated collective will of the participating countries of OPEC, and, each of the member nations, including Nigeria, has benefitted immensely from its activities. The confidence with which the OPEC members negotiate with the oil companies now is a reflection of the strength and relative group solidarity of OPEC.⁵

OPEC Members and Their Solidarity Problem

Contemporary solidarity problems of OPEC could be traced to a number of factors, principal among which are the following:-

1. The unevenness of oil distribution and the advantageous position of many of the Arab countries, particularly Saudi Arabia, in terms of abundant petroleum availability and large financial accumulation.
2. The resource to population needs of each State and the qualitative variation of the level of development, and
3. The political factor which arose as a result of using oil as a political weapon against the West during the Arab/Israeli War in 1973/74. Each and everyone of these factors has its print on the perception of the leaders of each member of the Organisation. The needs and the capability strength vary from country to country.

A cursory look at the OPEC countries shows that the majority of them are underdeveloped by Western standards. For almost all of them, petroleum is the main stay of the economy. Three major categories can be distinguished among the OPEC members: (a) Those that are net debtors and are expected to remain so, at least for the next couple of years, because their rising oil revenues will still fall short of their capital needs for domestic economic development. Nigeria is in this group, so also are other members like Iran, Venezuela, Indonesia, Algeria, and Iraq. (b) Those that may be net creditors now and in the future, but whose annual oil production is expected to remain at about the present level, and whose future annual receipt will not increase except for possible higher oil prices and inflation. Those in this group include Kuwait and Libya. (c) The third group includes those whose production and incomes are destined to rise, but whose domestic investment opportunities are not likely to absorb their total foreign exchange revenues. In this category are such producers as Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Qatar, all of which have very large financial accumulations over and above their contemporary developmental and investment needs.

Those in the second and third categories may be the ones whose accumulated revenues transcend their immediate domestic needs. With about 14.7 million barrels production per day in 1974, and about 12.7 million barrels production per day in 1975, these two categories are projected to be capable of accumulating about \$50 to \$75 billion in 1980, and a possible surplus of between \$10 to \$15 billion in the same time period. It is as a result of this accumulated wealth, coupled with the business relationship between the United

States and Saudi Arabia for example, that encourages Saudi Arabia's tendency towards unilateral stand and a possible exercise of an unwritten veto power on vital OPEC issues. A leading American Petroleum economist, Professor Morris Adelman of MIT, has argued that in terms of the security of oil market, Saudi Arabia has won the competition among petroleum exporting countries for a greater share of the world oil market. He believes that, as a result of its secured oil market in the West, Saudi Arabia, backed by Iran, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, and Qatar, are likely to promote further dissent at future OPEC price-setting meetings.

Such a prediction about Saudi Arabia is certainly not in the best interest of OPEC, particularly since it is the largest producer among them. Even the behavior of its Oil Minister—Mr. Sheik Yamani—at OPEC Conferences at Geneva gives room for suspicion, and it is not too encouraging to the hardliners group who want better arrangements for greater returns. For example, while Saudi Arabia played an influential role in stopping OPEC members from shifting away from the dollar as a medium of exchange for petroleum—a move that is generally considered rational by leading international financial experts—it has stood in the way of the OPEC to steadily increase oil price to meet world inflation. There is no doubt about the fact that failure on the part of OPEC to secure maximum support and encouragement from its leading members like Saudi Arabia and Iran creates enough solidarity problems for the Organisation.

Mention should be made of the increasing media propaganda of the Western world about OPEC, since the said propaganda is intended to de-emphasize the importance of the Organisation. Certainly, the West cannot claim that all the members of OPEC were involved in the 1973/74 oil embargo against the West. Those who actually participated in the use of oil as a political weapon were members of the Arab Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (AOPEC). This is an Arab oil organisation comprising about 2/3 of the OPEC members. The AOPEC has played an important role for its Arab members. Unlike the OPEC, which has membership from Latin America, Asia, and Africa, the AOPEC is an exclusive Arab organisation having membership only from the Arab world, and to that extent, it could be used effectively as a political organisation to promote the socio-cultural and economic interests of the Arabs. Within the Middle East, the most significant difference between the two Organisations is the omission of Iran from the Arab group. AOPEC was more tightly organised, although efforts were made to avoid rivalry between the two. The point that is being made here is that, if the anti-OPEC propaganda presently going on

in the West is the after-effect of the use of oil embargo in the 1973/74 Arab/Israeli conflict, then AOPEC, rather than OPEC, should have been the target of Western propaganda. There is abundant evidence to show that while AOPEC members were solidly behind the oil embargo, other OPEC members who were not members of AOPEC, like Nigeria and Venezuela and others in the non-communist, non-Arab oil-producing States, were in fact exporting oil to the West as usual.⁶ Because Saudi Arabia is the largest oil-producing nation, despite its AOPEC membership, its domineering power and influence is now being exploited by the West to threaten the continued strength and vitality of OPEC. Saudi Arabia is performing this role for the United States and the West because (a) her accumulated financial resources and investments are in dollars and it is thus interested in the survival of the Western economy, (b) it is using oil to bargain for military equipment from the United States, and (c) because of its very small population, relative to its financial capabilities. It could, for example, conveniently continue its actions, even when it is clear that such moves posit a threat to the solidarity of OPEC, and yet excuse itself on the grounds that it has not in any way violated the charter of OPEC, and that it is only acting in defence of its national interest. Such excuses, of course, underplay the necessity of members to pursue their national interests within the context of the goals of the Organisation. To the extent that Saudi Arabia is blocking majority will at OPEC conferences, it is, in fact, acting contrary to the goals of the Organisation.

Saudi Arabia, therefore, needs to realise the importance of its working in concert with the other members of OPEC in order to achieve their common interests. The importance of what close collaboration and solidarity within the Organisation could achieve has been demonstrated in 1973 when the Organisation jointly quadrupled the price of oil. One is, therefore, not in support of those calling for the expulsion of Saudi Arabia. Such a move would appear unwise, in view of the relative importance of this country as the largest oil producer. Its participation is still crucial to the success of the Organisation. To expel Saudi Arabia from OPEC is to expose the already weakened Organisation to several unpredictable reprisals from Saudi Arabia to frustrate OPEC and thereby improve her security in the world oil market.

Nigeria and the Future of OPEC

The present problems of OPEC are those that any Inter-governmental Organisation can face at any time. They are the outcome of the inability of member States to mirror and articulate their national interests within the set limit and the paramount principles of the Organisation. Since membership exclusively guarantees some measure of advantages in terms of access to research findings, technical, and legal advices, Nigeria has certainly gained by joining the Organisation.⁷ It has benefitted immensely through the collective will and the joint bargaining strength of the Organisation. Arguments that Nigeria should opt out of the Organisation seem untenable in view of the loss that Nigeria would suffer as a result of such a move, since withdrawal on her part would lead to denial of the several advantages that she presently enjoys as a member.

Given the past performances of OPEC, particularly in the areas of technical and economic advices, it would cost the Nigerian tax payers so much money to independently meet the research capabilities of OPEC through its own separate efforts. Besides, her present ability to compare notes with other oil producing States would be seriously impaired if she were to opt out, and this would seriously affect her bargaining strength. The best pragmatic alternative is to maintain our membership in the Organisation, utilize its services to our advantage and, through diplomatic efforts on both bilateral and multilateral bases, put pressure to bear and influence the recalcitrant members of the Organisation to realize its positive utilities and the need to collaborate with one another.

By doing this, Nigeria would, in fact, be promoting the spirit of the Organisation, thereby enhancing its capability, and thus making it more useful for the oil producing States.

Now, the question may be asked, what loss is being sustained by Canada and Mexico (two other oil producers) from their non-participation in OPEC?

Rather than suffer any immediate loss, both countries are presently in the beneficial position of taking advantage of oil price increases brought about by OPEC. By operating outside of OPEC, these States, like others, compound the problems of the Organisation and weaken it because they flood the market with their oil while their production and marketing policies are not regulated or monitored by OPEC. However, the circumstances of each differ qualitatively.

In the case of Canada which is a member of the developed world, a member of NATO, and an immediate neighbour

of the United States, the ease with which it can presently sell its oil (estimated at about 1.2 per cent of total world share) in the American market may not allow it to appreciate the justification for participating in OPEC.⁸ Even it has been estimated that when its untapped potential of the Athabasca tar sands, 300 miles north of Calgary is developed, its large scale mining of the tar sands could become profitable, eventually providing enough synthetic crude oil to fuel the whole of North America for years to come.⁹ One, however, does not see this as any proof that Canada would join OPEC. On the contrary, the country feels more at home as a member of the raw material-consuming nations and thus, the developed world. H.I. MacDonald's thesis on Canada's Foreign Economic Policy, published under the auspices of the Canadian Institute of International Studies in 1960, still bears relevance to the country's contemporary foreign economic relations. He suggested in 1960 that Canada's commercial policy is explainable under four possible alternatives: (a) the need to move toward some form of economic union with the U.S., (b) the need to continue moving to multilateralism, freer trade, and a progressive lowering of trading barriers with all nations who are willing to negotiate, (c) the need to withdraw into a highly controlled economy in the area of foreign trade, with greater protection and with restrictions imposed on trade and capital investment in Canada, and (d) the need to move towards closer cooperation and participation with European trading blocs and eventually an Atlantic alliance.¹⁰ From all indications, Canada has not deviated too much from these principles, rather, her oil policy, which excludes her from participating in OPEC, is part of a long term policy to work closer with the United States and the Western World.

Mexico, on the other hand, presents a different picture. First, it is a developing nation, and it has been in the oil business longer than many of the OPEC members even though the quantity of the oil found then was very small, compared to its present production. Professor Adelman has already estimated that Mexico could produce 5 million barrels a day by 1985, which means, producing more than any other Arab country except Saudi Arabia.¹¹ Its reserves have been estimated at about 100 billion barrels.

But with all these favourable conditions for Mexico, it does not appear that it would be willing, for the foreseeable future to join OPEC. While most observers believe that oil would play an important role in the nation's economy, it would take quite a while before it offsets the country's rising

debt now estimated at about \$25 billion.¹² United States oil firms are principally producing the necessary credit for the exploitation of Mexican oil, and it is estimated that it would be about early 1980s when oil and gas revenues would begin to reverse the effect and cost of huge purchases abroad, particularly in the areas of drilling, refining, and petro-chemical equipment on the country's balance of payment. Along with Brazil, Mexico is another Latin American country most heavily indebted to the United States, and while its sympathy is with the Third World as demonstrated by Echeverria and Senior Lopez, its past and present Presidents, it would appear politically naive for it to play a different role until it can settle her balance of payment deficits. Mexico could be expected to join OPEC once its financial situation improves.

On the whole, the problems of OPEC could be discussed and solved within the orbit of the Organisation. Indeed, the adoption of common policies on pricing, acceptable to all participating members, is a priority among the problems.

Accepting this does not mean that each member cannot still grant concessionary trade terms to its most favoured nations without necessarily violating the goals of the Organisation. The particular circumstances of Saudi Arabia, for example, including the prospect that it is being able to control the amount of oil available on World markets to emphasize its strength with OPEC, is causing considerable concern among OPEC members, but to expel it from the Organisation is to traumatically expand the scope of the problem. A critical question that we must answer relates to whether there is availability of secured market for our oil. While utilizing our multilateral diplomacy through OPEC, I believe it will be politically prudent for us to pursue bilateral diplomatic contact with our present buyers, particularly the United States, in order to maintain a mutually acceptable and favourable climate through which our trading relations can improve. I certainly have no evidence to believe that other OPEC members may not be thinking along this line.

Short of its solidarity problems, the greatest threat to the future of OPEC would be the development of alternative energy sources by the developed world, which could drastically de-emphasize the present predominant utility of petroleum. But while the developed world has identified other possible sources of energy, the high cost of production and the non-availability of these sources in a proportion capable of serving as substitute for petroleum has qualitatively improved the importance of petroleum as the major source

of energy. In an attempt to develop alternative sources of energy, scientists have addressed themselves to three basic needs: -

- a) the need to raise the supply of conventional sources other than petroleum (e.g.) coal and hydroelectricity,
- b) the need to look more seriously into further development of more expensive substitutes (e.g.) oil shales, tar sands and nuclear power, and
- c) the need to develop exotic energy sources (e.g.) geothermal, solarpower, tidal waves, and hydrogen fusion.

The findings of many of the researches conducted, as reported by J. Amuzegar in the authoritative Foreign Affairs, have shown the continued importance of petroleum. For example, while an increase in the supply of coal and hydroelectricity is found to be time consuming, costly, and even replete with significant technical and environmental limitations, exotic potentials now in the experimental use for heating and power in some developed countries are expected to remain marginal for at least the next thirty years because of the enormous technological complexities and high costs involved in its utility. The combined supply of the conventional sources and other expensive substitutes when petroleum is included is estimated to yield about 20.3 million barrel per day (b/d) (of oil equivalent) for coal, 23.2 million b/d for gas, 14.5 million b/d for nuclear energy, 8.7 million b/d for hydroelectric power, 1.4 million b/d for oil shales and tar sands, the majority part of the oil requirement of 76.3 million b/d would be provided by petroleum by 1985.¹³ Certainly, these figures show the expected continued utility of petroleum over all other sources of energy. Even the findings of OPEC experts on global energy requirements for the same time period is not too dissimilar. The following table shows

ENERGY SOURCES	1975		1985	
	Q	%	Q	%
Oil and Gas	88.58	68.40	137.00	68.5
Nuclear	3.90	3.00	15.00	7.5
Coal	30.32	23.40	38.00	7.5
Hydroelectric	6.72	5.20	10.00	5.00
TOTAL	129.52	100.00	200.00	100.00

Q = Million Barrels per day of Oil equivalent.

Sources: OPEC Documents on Energy Sources, Vienna, 1977.

the available energy sources and the scientifically worked out projections for 1985 as prepared by OPEC experts. Oil and gas are expected to provide the lion share of about 68.5 per cent of total global energy requirements, while the combined output of other sources amounts to 31.5 per cent. Without doubt, these two findings clearly demonstrate the world's dependence on petroleum as a source of energy and the consequent utility of OPEC. Other alternative sources of energy—even until the late 1980s—are not only more costlier than oil prices as of now, but there would not be enough of them to provide a credible and thus market-relevant alternatives to oil.

In view of the existing problems of OPEC and the established continued utility of petroleum as a major source of energy, should Nigeria opt out of OPEC and operate independently from the Organisation? The writer does not think so. I believe that Nigeria's interest is better served as a member of OPEC. By earning about 75% of our total revenue from oil, while 95% of our total export is from oil, Nigeria's economy is significantly dependent on oil. In the absence of a diversified economy, Nigeria needs all the co-operation it can secure from all the oil-producing States to make the oil industry a stable one through which Nigeria's economic potentials can be promoted and protected. This is a position shared by all OPEC members, including Saudi Arabia and Iran. Rather than see the activities of OPEC as being principally engineered to be in conflict with the interests of the oil-consuming States, the perspective should be diverted to establishing co-operation between the two groups. This, of course, demands responsible reciprocal attitude on the part of the oil consuming nations who consider it a vital part of their national interest to have access to an uninterrupted flow of oil.

In general, the potential co-operation between oil-importing and oil-producing nations should be regarded as a triumph of reason, decency, and fair play over shortsightedness, greed, and prejudice. The need to promote the common interests of a stable and abundant supply of oil at reasonable prices cannot be obscured, and promoting such a cause is not against our national interest. The Venezuelan Oil Minister, Mr. Valentine Hernandez has, in fact, made similar policy objectives in several places in demonstration of his country's commitment to a stable international oil market. This would be a profitable move for OPEC and the oil-consuming nations alike. It is by doing this that OPEC's determination to develop their economies through an improvement in the terms of trade with the consuming world, rather than through foreign aid or other concessionary means alone, would have the greatest expressions.

Conclusion

It would appear from the foregoing analysis that OPEC's strength is derived from maintaining group solidarity. The strength will also be greatly reinforced if OPEC is in sympathy with the Third World. In other words, every action of the Organisation must be calculated in terms of its cost/benefit effect on them and the poorer countries of the Third World. The unity and strength of OPEC is certainly of universal interest. Its continued unity, in our estimate, is particularly in the best interest of all its members. The now recognized utility of petroleum as a source of energy for a long time, and the present overdependence of our economy on petroleum, makes it imperative for us not only to be actively involved in the institutions that play an important role in the international oil market like OPEC, but it will also serve our national interest to make their activities a success. After all, nothing that has so far happened suggests that the world's dependence on OPEC suppliers has been fundamentally altered, and to that extent therefore, OPEC's relevance is guaranteed. To pursue this is not to antagonize our principal trading partners, the West and the United States, whose assistance are still very much needed for the development of the Nigerian economy. Rather, it would emphasize our commitment to the growth of international trade of our presently most valued raw material through consultation and co-operation with the consuming nations.

Footnote

1. See the Daily Times, July 1, 1978, and November 6, 1978, p.7.
2. The success of OPEC was so evident that it was in 1973 accused of participating in an unholy alliance with the major oil companies at the expense of the consuming public. See Foreign Affairs, Vol. 51, July 1973, p. 676.
3. See Opec Information Booklet, Vienna, 1977, p. 5-6.
4. *ibid.* p.9.
5. For a detailed discussion on group solidarity and rationales for certain OPEC actions see Economic Intelligence Unit Quarterly Economic Review, Nigeria, No. 2, April 7, 1971, January, 1977.
6. It is widely assumed that Nigeria was the second largest oil exporter to the United States during the 1973/74 oil crisis.

7. See Scott. Rand Sandra .C. Pearson, "Oil Boom Reshapes Nigeria's Future," *Africa Report* 16, No. 2, February 1971, p. 14-17. See also Scott .R. Pearson, *Petroleum and the Nigerian Economy*, Stanford University Press, 1970, Ch. X.
8. See *Financial Times*, London, July 12, 1976, p. 665.
9. *ibid*, p. 665.
10. See H.I. MacDonald: *Canadian Foreign Economic Policy*, Canadian Institute of International Affairs, 1960, p. 1-12.
11. For greater details on Mexico's oil potentials and possible implications, see *The International Herald Tribune*, France, July 6, 1978, p. 665.
12. *ibid*, p. 665.
13. See *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 51, 1973, p. 678.

CSO: 4420

BRIEFS

INCREASED RUBBER EXPORT--The annual export of rubber has risen to 40,000 metric tons. In a statement in Lagos, the Nigerian Rubber Board said that efforts are now being intensified to increase the output. These include planned campaigns to draw the attention of the public to the importance of the product to the economy and supplies to [word indistinct] farmers of farm instruments at subsidized rates. [Text] [Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 7 Aug 79 AB]

CSO: 4420

STATISTICS REVEAL DRAMATIC UPTURN IN ECONOMY

Salisbury THE HERALD-BUSINESS HERALD in English 2 Aug 79 p 1

[Text] The extent of the upturn in the economy this year is highlighted by the latest figures in the monthly Digest of Statistics released this week.

Construction retail, manufacturing, mining banking and property sectors have all improved in the first months of this year over 1978.

The strong recovery--and increased tariffs--are reflected in the operating results for Zimbabwe Rhodesia railways.

Except for January the operating surplus has been more than \$1 million for every month since last October. The last surplus of more than \$1 million was in June 1977.

For the 10 months to April this year the railways had a surplus of \$10.9 million compared with \$502,000 in the same period of the last financial year.

The surplus for the last two months for which figures are available was \$1.6 million for March and \$1.5 million for April. Last year the railways achieved a surplus of \$125,000 in March and a deficit of \$895,000 in April.

In the 10 months to April the number of passengers fell by almost a quarter but the tonnage of revenue earning goods increased by five percent.

In agriculture the sales of crops and livestock is up seven percent from January to May this year compared with last year.

The value of mineral production is up by \$1 million while the index of manufacturing production volume has increased by 3.9 percent between May last year and the same month this year.

Another indication of how the economy is doing is the amount of power being used, and shows that electricity consumption in kilowatt hours has risen by 3,7 percent from January to May this year compared with 1978.

Even the depressed building sector shows an improvement with plans approved up by 27 percent from January to May. Low-cost houses and flats show a tremendous increase of 277 percent.

The retail trade index is up by 10,6 percent. However, the liquidity position continues to increase with demand deposits of commercial banks in May by 12 percent more than in the same month last year while advances are down by nine percent.

The money supply has increased by 15 percent in the same period.

The value of property sales has increased by 47 percent from January to May this year over 1978 while mortgage bond values have risen by 17 percent.

CSO: 4420

LOCAL PRODUCTION OF PESTICIDES PLANNED

Salisbury THE HERALD-BUSINESS HERALD in English 2 Aug 79 p 1

[Text] The Local production of flowable pesticides will mean a saving of foreign exchange and a boost to the local packaging industry.

The commercial manager of Windmill (Pvt) Ltd., Mr D. Bushnell, said the pesticide market in this country is valued at approximately \$20 million, a high proportion of which is imported, some of it in the flowable form.

Pesticide companies have been seeking Government permission to manufacture flowable pesticides for several years and now that approval has been granted companies in the pesticide trade expect to market two flowable pesticides based on Atrazine and Carbaryl.

Windmill expects to be marketing Carbaryl flowable early next year.

Mr Bushnell said that in Zimbabwe Rhodesia Atrazine is the prime maize herbicide and Carbaryl is one of the major cotton insecticides.

Although initially only two flowable pesticides would be formulated, it is expected that as expertise is gained more crop chemicals will be formulated locally.

The basic chemicals will still have to be imported but formulation would be done within the country.

Extensions to Windmill's existing plant were being made, but as the operation was still in its early stages it was not possible at this time to estimate final plant and machinery costs.

Said Mr Bushnell: "This is just the nucleus of a formulation venture which could eventually cover many of the more than 100 pesticides presently being used in agriculture and industry."

Mr Bushnell said flowable pesticides, being water based, were much easier to handle and measure than the conventional wettable powders.

Existing pesticide application equipment used by farmers would need no adaptation and it is expected that the cost per hectare will be lower.

Packaging costs should also decrease as the extent of local packaging would increase.

CSO: 4420

GOVERNMENT'S AGRICULTURAL POLICY COMING UNDER ATTACK

Paris DEMAIN L'AFRIQUE in French 2 Jul 79 p 32

[Article by special correspondent Moriba Magassouba: "Uneasiness in the Countryside"]

[Text] Cooperatives in Difficulty

The first rains have fallen on the Senegalese countryside, the harbingers of the coming sowing season, which is going to keep all the able bodied persons in the village busy for days. Here in these semiarid areas of the Sahel, rain is welcomed with joy, even ecstasy, because of the promising harvest it produces. It dispels the anxiety in the cabins and fills them with the cries of children and the laughter of adults who have regained their composure. But this year, the Goor Sene cabins and the Sine peasants are not showing any exuberant expressions of joy. It is certainly not this overwhelming sadness of the long days of drought. It is quite simply silence. It is a silence pregnant with questions. The cooperative in the village of Goor was not entitled to seeds and small scale agricultural equipment for the coming season. This is just like some 435 other cooperatives out of the 510 which the region includes, the country's peanut basin where about half of Senegalese production is harvested year in and year out.

"With us, the situation is not very encouraging," the subprefect's assistant of a department in the Thies area, about 70 kilometers from Dakar, tells us confidentially. Fresh from the CPTA [Administrative Training and Improvement Center] in Dakar, the young official who is returning from a "familiarization tour" throughout the department, is obviously dejected. His listeners were deaf to his appeals for civic spirit. They all say the same thing as those in the village of Goor Sene: "We cannot pay." An assertion which gets the inevitable answer: "Then you will not get seeds on credit."

The "Dakar government" had warned: only cooperatives which have achieved "a rate of repayment of at least 65 percent of their seed debts will participate in the 1979 agricultural program." Plainly speaking, in order to have seeds and various types of agricultural equipment or draft oxen, the producer cooperatives had to pay their debts for seeds, fertilizers, fungicides and other equipment contracted with ONCAD /National Office of Cooperation and Assistance for Development/, an organization responsible for marketing peanuts and with the BNDS /Senegal National Development Bank/. The peasants were not unduly impressed. Had the state not already canceled their debts, because, it is true, of poor crops due to the effects of drought? At the worst, one thought under the village's tree for discussions, the "Dakar government" was going to decide on a new deferral of debts until...better times. Alas, what in the eyes of the producers was a completely impractical threat was going to take concrete form with the preparations for the agricultural season. On last 14 May, an interministerial council had reaffirmed the government's intention to "literally apply the measures decreed regarding the distribution of seed and the implementation of the agricultural program."

Are they determined? The public authorities are anxious to make it known that they are and make no mistake about it, "in spite of the problems which that would not fail to create in the peasant world," they declare. For all that, the agricultural leaders do not intend to deprive "the poor payers" completely of the opportunity to purchase seed. Removed from the credit system, they will, nevertheless, be able to buy seeds for cash. For this purpose, it has been planned to open stores where fertilizer, seeds and various types of agricultural equipment will be sold for "cash." An opportunity which obviously only interests those who can pay. It appears that few of the "poor payers" are in this situation. Then what? Then the others will have to shift for themselves. The "others" are several hundreds of peasants belonging to 1,251 cooperatives of "poor payers" out of the 1,887 in Senegal.

Firm in the conviction that the peasants have the means to pay their debts--a conviction based on the good results of the last harvest which recorded 700,000 tons of oil producing peanuts--the Senegalese Government took a great risk. Was it a calculated risk? Let us see. Does it still not intend "to question the principles" of the agricultural policy, which is more than 20 years old today? This policy, criticized by all opposition groups, does not seem to be unanimously supported either in the

socialist party, the party of the chief of state, Leopold Sedar Senghor. Condemning, as the daily LE SOLEIL does, the "reprehensible generosity" of the state, which "from cancellation to cancellation of debts, has created a certain attitude among the peasants," is certainly not enough to explain the uneasiness in the Senegalese countryside.

But far more important factors, in the opinion of technicians and peasants, explain what some do not hesitate to call "the failure" of the agricultural policy carried out since independence: inadequacy, if not lack of cooperative education; skeleton cadre organization; unscrupulous operations with which leaders brought in from outside victimize the cooperative members; repeated delays, after almost 19 years, in providing agricultural equipment...

Nevertheless, for the moment, all attention is concentrated on the need to save a harvest which seems threatened here and now. Will the government stick to its intention to make "an example" or will it show a spirit of conciliation by proceeding with agonizing changes, if necessary? The success of the coming agricultural season depends on the answer to this question and, therefore, the recovery of the Senegalese economy which is going through a very difficult period and perhaps the future of the Senegalese cooperative movement.

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CS0: 4400

TWO JAPANESE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED

Dakar LE SOLEIL in French 26 Jul 79 p 3

[Text] The Japanese minister of foreign affairs, Sunao Sonoda, who has been on an official visit to Senegal since Tuesday, is leaving Dakar this morning. Yesterday, he was received by the premier, Abdou Diouf. He talked with Moustapha Niasse, his Senegalese counterpart, in the morning. In the afternoon, two cooperation agreements were signed by Senegal and Japan. The first agreement was signed by Sunao Sonoda and Ousmane Seck, minister of state for finance and economic affairs. It concerns a loan in the amount of 2.750 billion CFA francs for the construction of the Louga-Dahra road, provided for as part of the fifth plan. The second agreement, signed by Moustapha Niasse, concerns a gift of 350 million CFA francs granted by the Japanese Government as food aid. According to the terms of the agreement, the government of Senegal will purchase nearly 5,000 tons of rice in Japan. Japan will pay to our country the sum of 88 million CFA francs as participation in the cost of transporting this commodity. The Japanese minister of foreign affairs then handed over to his Senegalese counterpart a catalog of books for the University of Dakar. In another connection, Minister Sonoda announced his government's intention to provide additional aid amounting to 900 million CFA francs for hydraulic equipment and the purchase of agricultural equipment. The two ministers of foreign affairs acknowledged in the signing of these various agreements the concretization of a new stage in Japanese-Senegalese cooperation. According to Moustapha Niasse, as a matter of fact, this act symbolizes the interest which Japan has in the development of our country and he expressed Senegal's thanks to Japan. For his part, Sonoda recalled to mind the visit made last April to his country by the Senegalese chief of state to say that it was an important step in strengthening the existing relations between our two countries.

CSO: 4400

SENEGAL

BRIEFS

VATICAN CONFIRMS DIVORCE PLEA--Cardinal Pietro Palazzini of the Vatican has confirmed that the Holy See is looking into the status of President Senghor's marriage, but refused to give details. The Senegalese Ambassador to Italy, M. Henri Senghor, however, denied press reports quoting Vatican sources that the President was seeking to divorce his French wife and marry another woman. The Ambassador did not exclude the possibility that President Senghor was seeking an annulment of his previous marriage which ended in civil divorce as this would enable him to marry his present wife in a religious ceremony after the civil one 22 years ago. President Senghor is 73 years old. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 23 Jul 79 p 1349]

CSO: 4420

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES ECONOMIC CONTROL MEASURES

London WEST AFRICA in English 6 Aug 79 pp 1401, 1403

[Interview with Siaka Stevens, president of Sierra Leone, by WEST AFRICA, date and place not given]

[Text]

PRESIDENT SIAKA STEVENS of Sierra Leone in an interview with *West Africa* said that it was certainly worthwhile spending the large sums of money necessary to host the next OAU summit; that the one-party system of government was proving a success; and that the economic troubles caused by a lack of control of government spending were on their way to being cured.

The meeting at State House, Freetown, began with a discussion of the three anonymous articles on Sierra Leonean affairs that appeared in *West Africa* and caused much controversy. Mr. Thaimu Bangura, the Minister of Information, said in some introductory remarks that he hoped the interview would help correct some misinformation that had been published. I intervened to say that if there had been any misinformation in the three articles I deeply regretted it; that the motives for publishing the articles were in no way malicious; the editorial judgement — and it might be argued that it was a mistaken editorial judgement — was that the articles represented a sincere and informed statement of a point of view that was held by Sierra Leoneans.

The President confirmed that they had been pained and angered by the articles, which they regarded as amounting almost to incitement in places. He spoke of the long and close connection he personally had had with *West Africa*, recalling with pleasure *West African Review*, which used to be

published monthly. It had come as a painful surprise that such articles should appear in a magazine like *West Africa*. However, he gave a friendly sort of shrug and indicated that the interview, for which questions had been submitted in advance, should begin.

The first question concerned the effects of a year of one-party rule: had it led to greater national unity? Had it brought, as had been suggested, greater freedom of speech and the press? Is the APC responsive to public criticism and open to communication with the people?

"It is too short a period to form a firm opinion on the situation," the President said, "but from the way recent parliamentary debates have been conducted, for instance — and the Speaker commended members for the outspoken way in which they voiced criticisms — my opinion is that the one-party system is going very well." It was an experiment in constitution-making, and more evidence would need to be gathered. But his experience in talking to people while travelling up and down the country was that tensions had been eased and in some cases family conflicts set aside. The party differences had in many ways reinforced tribal divisions and embittered them: all that was now in the past. "I sincerely believe that we do not at this stage of our development have sufficient men of high calibre to waste some by using them as an opposition, destructively sniping at the men

in power. There is a shortage of the right type of people. Let us marshal all our forces."

The President said that there was what might be called a state of emergency in such matters as education, health, transport, the elimination of poverty. "We are in a state of war against these conditions and we must concentrate all our resources. The people appreciate very well that we do not have time for ideologies yet. The more important things are malaria, yaws, etc." He concluded by saying, "I feel satisfied with the introduction of one-party rule and with its success so far."

The second question was: has the government any doubts about whether it is justified in spending the large amounts necessary for hosting next year's OAU summit?

"We do not have any doubts," the President said. "Well over half the expenses will not be to the benefit only of the OAU; they will be for the benefit of the country generally." He instanced the housing that was being put up for the heads of state: the country was in need anyway of such a housing scheme. Similarly, the extensions to the existing hotels and the building of a new hotel would benefit the tourist industry in the long run. The same was true of the airport improvements and the new ferries and jetties.

The OAU meeting would help by bringing world attention to bear on Sierra Leone. The President remarked that the country's name was something of a handicap and that there had been suggestions that it should be changed to something that had a meaning. "One meets people who ask, 'Where is Sierra Leone? South America?'" The President light-heartedly recalled meeting Pope Paul three years ago. "The Pope could not even pronounce the name. He said it in the Italian way, *Leonie*."

The meeting would allow Sierra Leone to draw the world's attention to the things it could boast about — the wonderful beaches; for one thing. But it was also a great honour to host such a meeting. "There are things you cannot measure in money." The OAU arrangements meant that there was a sort of queue and if a country missed its turn it would mean waiting for years and years. There were, of course, risks. "But nothing can be achieved if one does not take risks."

The next question concerned the lessons that might be drawn from the Liberian experience and what the achievements were of OAU '79.

The President said it was too early to answer the first part of the question. "We sent a team — hotel and security men, apart from our delegation — and they saw a lot of things. We will all meet together and report on our experiences." So far as the conference went, the President remarked that apart from the formal resolutions a lot of friendships were made: "as much useful work is done in the corridors as in the formal assemblies," he said. He recalled the success of the mediation between Sudan and Ethiopia in which Sierra Leone — and the President himself — had played a leading role. The face-to-face meeting in Freetown earlier this year between Col. Mengistu and President Nimiery had borne fruit.

The benefits of such gatherings of heads of state as happened at the OAU summit were intangible but real. The President remarked that the growth and ease of air travel had changed many things. People had become more aware of other people's problems and of the things they had in common — the need for food, for instance. The President foresaw valuable results coming from the special economic summit that is to be held in Lagos. He remarked that there were many specialised agencies of the UN and other international organisations producing valuable work on health, development and other subjects: there was a great need for their work to be co-ordinated and monitored.

The next question was: Two recent budgets have suggested that some of Sierra Leone's economic difficulties are caused by a lack of control of government spending, which has been far in excess of estimates: what measures are being taken to remedy this?

The President agreed that there was this lack of control. He said outside influences sometimes caused estimates to be exceeded: there was imported inflation, high oil prices, a floating dollar — all conspiring to turn the budget topsy-turvy. However, they were making serious efforts to cut expenditure, he said. A broadcasting station's output had been reduced from 18 hours a day to three hours. They were looking at prison feeding: he said providing three meals a day was hardly "condemning"

crime. One serious factor was that many workers still had a "colonial mentality" in that they regarded the employer as someone alien from whom it was all right to steal. "We want to persuade people that there is no longer a white man's rule: if you steal cement now you are stealing from yourself."

There had been specific rulings on those departments which used to operate a self-audited accounting system; from now on the Ministry of Finance would exercise more central control on expenditure. He had confidence that the new Minister of Finance, Mr. Francis Minah, would exercise a strong control. "We want to be proud of our system of finance," he said.

Asked about the rice position, the President said, "We are working towards self-sufficiency, but it is far-off yet." He referred to the bad harvest caused by excess rain and the threat to next year's harvest by the army worm plague, but said there was rice available now because of imports.

This was damaging to the foreign exchange position. One factor was the illegal export of rice from Sierra Leone. "We have good quality rice going to other countries," he said. "We use our foreign currency and do not get anything in return." Police have recently arrested 285 people and the government was conducting a vigorous campaign to prevent this illegal export.

At the end of the questions, the President said he wished to deny recent suggestions that he had been influenced by tribal loyalties in appointments to senior police and army posts: there was no truth in this at all, he said. He also explained in some detail the political background — and in some

cases the moral failings — of a number of Sierra Leoneans now living abroad. He wished to make clear that they had axes to grind and that "information" received from them should be treated with reserve. The President also insisted that they were not "exiles"; they were free to return if they wished.

Finally, he complained about the British government's sordid bargaining over who should pay for the rebuilding of the Kissy jetty that was long used by the British Navy — this is an old and complicated dispute about which the President feels strongly. He said that Sierra Leone should be treated as a member of the family.)

DETAILS OF FINANCE MINISTER'S BUDGET SPEECH NOTED

London WEST AFRICA in English 23 Jul 79 pp 1311, 1312

[Text] MEMBERS of Parliament cheered when Mr. Francis Minah, Minister of Finance, announced in his Budget speech for 1979-80 year, that certain essential food items — such as rice, gari, wheat, maize, egusi, palm oil, fish, groundnut oil and baby food — would be exempt from customs duty, import licence fees and invoice entry fees.

They cheered again a few moments later when he announced that once the Appropriation Act for Financial Year 1979/80 (the Budget) comes into effect free fuel would no longer be supplied for cars allocated to Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Assistants, who would instead receive a monthly mileage allowance — Le 100 for Ministers and half that for the others: heads of ministries and departments would receive a monthly Le 30 for fuel for their official cars. Vehicles attached to ministries and departments would be given two gallons of fuel a day and would require a minister's written authorisation for that to be used. Cars attached to the Offices of the President and the Vice Presidents would not be restricted.

A third cheer came from the news that duty on beer and stout would be reduced by 5 cents a pint.

Members had not had much cheering news before that from Mr. Minah and they had sat through some 7,000 words of stark economic pronouncements on the state of the nation.

The Minister had again addressed them with the blunt presentation of harsh facts which he had used in his recent mini-budget — even if little of the substance of that speech remained. For example:

"In the 1978/79 budget, it was envisaged that revenue amounting to Le 147.8m.

would be generated while recurrent expenditure would total Le 133.2m. on the basis of the 'A' budget, yielding a current account surplus of Le 14.6m. Available information suggests that both revenue and expenditure have surpassed their estimated levels. At the end of May, 1979, revenue collected had amounted to Le 146.9m. and it is estimated that additional collections during June would bring the total for the fiscal year to about Le 160.6m. an increase of 8.3 per cent.

"Recurrent expenditure as at May was Le 139.9m. and it is estimated that for the whole fiscal year, a total of Le211.2m. would be expended on recurrent items.

"Consequently, rather than obtaining the budgeted current account surplus Le 14.6m. we are likely to be saddled with a current deficit of the order of Le 50.6m. Addition of the expenditure incurred on development brings the overall deficit to a frightening Le 113.6m. mainly financed by the domestic banking system.

"Thus while our revenue generating measures are bearing good fruits, our attempts at containing expenditure within the prescribed limits have so far proved an abysmal failure.

"No doubt, part of the escalation in expenditure was consequent upon factors over which we can exercise no control. We should, however, be courageous enough to accept that we bear a good measure of the blame, for it is only by recognising our shortcomings that we can formulate meaningful measures to ensure an improvement in future performance.

"One of the consequences of the deterioration in our budgetary performance has been a continuation of the increasing trend in the money supply. As at the end of

March, 1979, money supply stood at Le 118.4m, an increase of Le 17.5m. over the end of the 1977/78 fiscal year. The main expansionary factor in the money supply increase was an increase in credit to government by the banking system which increased by 41.7 per cent from Le 148.7m. in June, 1978, to Le 210.7m. in March 1979."

The bulk of this increase in net credit to Government by the banking system was accounted for by the Bank of Sierra Leone, whose contribution to financing the budgetary deficit rose 65.4 per cent from Le 96.3m. in June, 1978 to Le 160.2m. by March this year.

Mr. Minah went on to say "deficit financing *per se* is not a bad practice as long as the funds so generated are spent on projects which would improve productivity and strengthen the capacity of the economy for future growth".

This is true but it does require considerable domestic self discipline, which has not always been evident in Sierra Leone.

Then the Minister turned to the current account which he said showed a colossal increase in the size of deficits. In 1977 it was around Le 44m., in 1978 Le 94.3m. It is estimated that the deficit will, by the end of, 1979 be Le 113.6m.

Factors responsible for the growing deficits include an increasing volume of imports. In 1976/77 import costs were Le 187.3m. In 1977/78 Le 240.4m. For the first half of financial year 1978/79 it reached the record figure of Le 165.2m.

Another source of current payments difficulties is the increase in short-term debts contracted to finance current deficits and to supplement domestic funds for development projects. In the absence of loan offers with concessionary repayment terms, coupled with the need to finance the completion of on-going development projects, government felt it had no choice, Mr. Minah said, but to contract some of these debts through commercial and banking channels at market rates with relatively short maturities.

The major cause of the budgetary deficit, or at least the largest figure, comes from the proposals for development expenditure which total Le 116.7m. for 1979-80 (Provisional figures show the 1978/79 expenditure at Le 41.6m., of which Le 7.5m. was spent on agriculture and natural resources).

Of the 1978-80 projection Le 45m. is

being allowed for projects connected, in the first instance with the OAU summit meeting — this is much less than Liberia is believed to have spent for this year's OAU conference — though in many cases spending on the OAU meeting is expected to yield continuing benefits long after "the captains and kings" have departed and, in places, will be merely an acceleration of development projects already planned for the future.

Mr. Minah said that the government decision to give emphasis to agriculture was already showing favourable results. Since higher producer prices had been introduced both the volume and the overall value of produce handled by the Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board had increased, despite a weakening of world prices for the commodities involved.

"To consolidate agricultural holdings effectively, it will, in many cases, be necessary to use expensive equipment and to employ professional and highly trained personnel. To this end our existing technical and secondary educational programme must be fully expanded."

Mr. Minah added, "Small farmers whose holdings are consolidated and who constitute themselves into co-operatives, will be given agricultural loans and technical assistance. In order to protect the farmers from extortionate money-lenders and to put long and short-term credits within their reach, a system of Land Banks or Agricultural Banks will be instituted."

The government also has hopes for the proceeds of the mining industry — mainly diamonds and bauxite, with rutile developing — this year.

In the search for economies and efficiency the Ministry of Finance has alighted on the public corporations and state enterprises which have hitherto enjoyed considerable freedom being less subject to scrutiny than ministries in both their expenditure and their operations. In future they are to pay more heed to tighter policy guidelines and will be subject to more careful control over their capital expenditure, which has hitherto been virtually blindly underwritten by government, and their reinvestment practices.

In future these bodies will be expected to operate more efficiently — "In the case of the Rice Corporation," said Mr. Minah, "in addition to its various shortcomings, it's suffered a loss in the region of Le 6.1m. in its operations" — and to work in such a way as to promote the national development.

A further attempt to staunch the financial blood-letting announced by the Minister was the establishment of a Central Procurement and Supply Organisation, which will take over from the four-year-old (and largely ineffective) Central Procurement Control Unit.

The Minister also made a reference to the importance of maintenance of projects, a topic which is just beginning to assume prominence on the international aid scene, when he observed that the cost of maintenance of the National Stadium and Sports Complex "has been of grave concern to my ministry. The problems of management loom large ... (at) this very expensive capital investment".

Mr. Minah also announced plans for an

export credits guarantee scheme to encourage exports of Sierra Leonean goods and produce.

He summarised Sierra Leone's 1979-80 budgetary position as follows:

	(Le million)
1. Recurrent Revenue	162.9
2. Recurrent Expenditure	156.7
3. Current Account Balance +	6.2
4. Public Debt Charges	79.0
5. Development Estimates:	77.4
(a) On-Going Projects (32.4)	
(b) OAU Projects (45.0)	
6. Development Receipts (SLPMB)	1.0
7. Agricultural Development Fund	3.0
8. CRS Contribution to the Development Fund	15.0
9. Overall Deficit	131.2

CSO: 4420

'MAJOR SCANDAL BLOWING UP' OVER RICE CORPORATION

London WEST AFRICA in English 6 Aug 79 pp 1404, 1405

[Text]

RICE IS the other big subject of conversation in Sierra Leone. The serious shortages of a few months ago have been ended by massive imports of rice — 40,000 tons have already been brought in this year, and more is in the pipeline. There are still grave distribution difficulties in some areas, but the crisis is over: people are not starving, and the government is able to hold down the price.

The cause of the bad harvest was excessive early rains last year, which caused flooding. There will be another bad harvest this year, as a plague of army worms has seriously interfered with planting. So more imports will be necessary, putting an additional strain on Sierra Leone's foreign exchange position. In past years the country has come close to self-sufficiency in rice production, with a yearly import figure of about 15,000 tons being regarded as normal.

The government is prepared to spend a considerable amount of money restoring rice production after this year and striving once again for self-sufficiency. In the meantime something of a major scandal is blowing up over the affairs of the Rice Corporation, which was dissolved last April and its activities handed over to the Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board.

Mr. Musa Suma, managing director of the SLPMB, told me that the huge losses the Rice Corporation were making were the immediate cause of the change. The cause of the losses, he said, was weak

management; there was much pilfering, little control of staff and an astonishing lack of proper accounts. They had hardly been able to produce any balance sheets; some records had been burnt; files had been taken away to houses.

The mismanagement caused a drop in the creditworthiness of the Rice Corporation in its last days and borrowing money became a difficult and expensive business. One of the immediate benefits of the take-over by the SLPMB has been that the marketing board, which has been well-run and making large profits for years, has been able to finance from its own resources the rice imports urgently needed. The rice operations of the SLPMB are now producing a profit — a larger profit than any other produce they handle. Mr. Suma foresaw a time when these profits would be used to subsidise rice farming.

There is apparently no question of further action against anyone involved in the ill-fated Rice Corporation. There was simply relief that the muddle was ended.

BRIEFS

ADDITIONAL AID CONFIRMED--Sierra Leone will receive additional aid from the European Economic Community after the signing of the new EEC/ACP Convention and Sierra Leone's re-classification. The National Authorising Officer, Dr. J. S. Funna explained recently that Sierra Leone is presently classified under "General Categories" and that there are favourable prospects of re-classification under the "least developed countries". Under the present EEC/ACP Lome Convention, which expires in February next, Dr. Funna recalled, Sierra Leone receives about Le 45m. exclusive of "STABEX" payments. He also disclosed that Sierra Leone will soon receive a large consignment of rice under the EEC food aid programme, which also embraces butter-oil and milk powder. Dr. Funna pointed out that about seventy-eight per cent of the development projects identified by this country have been approved by the EEC. Among these, he said, is the Makeni/Kabala Road, which is partly financed by the EEC. Dr. Funna said that the EEC has also set aside Le 1m. for financing micro-projects. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 23 Jul 79 p 1349]

RICE DEALERS ADVISED--The acting President, Mr. C. A. Kamara-Taylor, has told recently appointed rice dealers that government was not opposed to their making profits, but the extent to which such profits are made. Such excesses, he went on, create hardship for people. He observed that the attitude of Sierra Leoneans is to trade in scarce commodities, adding that government will soon transfer the rice business to licensed dealers. Sierra Leone Produce Marketing Board's involvement in the rice trade is a temporary measure, he added. Mr. Kamara-Taylor noted that some rice dealers were selling the commodity more than the prescribed quantity per person, and warned that such defaulters will be dealt with irrespective of party affiliations. He said that a large consignment of rice was due shortly, followed by another in August. [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 23 Jul 79 p 1349]

CSO: 4420

AFRIKAANSE STUDENTEBOND REJECTS APARTHEID

Pretoria SOUTH AFRICA DIGEST in English 26 Jul 79 pp 3, 22-24

[Text] The Minister of Co-operation and Development, Dr Piet Koorhof, told the congress that the Government had no master plan for the development of all the nations. He said the Government had created a space for every nation to develop according to its own character, preferences and ability, providing it did not inhibit the other nations.

Most urban Blacks, who had no homeland ties, were apolitical and more concerned with bread-and-butter issues, the chairman of the Soweto Community Council, Mr David Thebehali, told the congress.

He said they would support the political leader whom they believed would create the best financial and economic climate to fulfil their aspirations.

According to a report in the *Rand Daily Mail*, these were: a higher standard of living, better housing, more social and sports facilities, better surroundings, better roads, electricity in homes, better public transport, better work opportunities and equal pay for equal work.

The Afrikaanse Studentebond has rejected the Government's policy of grand apartheid and has decided to recognise the permanence of the millions of Blacks in "White".

The political staff of *The Star* reports from Cape Town that in a motion

adopted at Stellenbosch, the ASB's annual congress decided that "apartheid" — another name for apartheid — could never really provide a total solution to the country's race problems.

The motion, introduced by Mr Jan-Louis du Plooy, of the University of Potchefstroom, states that the congress:

- Recognised the fact that the homelands concept offered a solution to the striving by Blacks for a country of their own, but nevertheless recognised the permanence and contribution of the urban Blacks;
- declared that as a result of such factors as economic integration and interdependence, a policy for a "White South Africa and Black homelands" did not offer a satisfactory solution to the problem of urban Blacks and other race groups; and
- declared that apartheid as such could never provide a total solution for South Africa because of the inconsistencies and unworkable elements contained in it.

The congress decided to use "apartheid" instead of "apartheid" because some delegates maintained that the use of the term "apartheid" in the original motion could create a wrong image in the eyes of the public.

[pages 22-24]

[Selections from the "Comment and Opinion" section]

[Text]

Die Transvaler **The ASB**

At the recent annual general meeting of the Afrikaanse Studentebond, views were expressed and decisions taken which could echo significantly.

To the right the reaction will probably be that student leaders want to move too quickly. And that their decisions in respect of liaison with Brown students and things like the Immorality Act are not in accordance with Government policy.

At the other end of the stick will be the section that is always ready to embarrass the Government. They will be keen to point out that students are busy organising a sort of protest against Government policy.

Reactions like these overlook the reality of Stellenbosch. What was said there should not be described as challenges to the right or left. All it was was a manifestation of the need of the Afrikaner student to take a penetrating look at the problematics of the SA political dispensation.

And as such it deserves the widest measure of praise. Each generation talks its own language. If our present students believe the time has come that they can no longer put a seal of approval on official party policy and action, it is their good right. To differ and to question does not mean to rebel against the Government.

At Stellenbosch controversial political and social situations were reviewed. The students tested customs and traditional prejudices against their own consciences.

The seed that is to germinate lies along this road. Tomorrow's leaders are speaking on behalf of the new generation.

No false labels should be attached to the Stellenbosch discussions. It could be a good thing were present Afrikaner leaders to listen to the ASB's newer tones without prejudice.

Johannesburg

A — July 16

RAND **Daily Mail** **New thinking by a new generation**

One of the more heartening sights on our political scene in recent times has been the change that has come over the Afrikaanse Studentebond. For years this student body was one of the bastions of verkramptheid, now suddenly it is emerging from its chrysalis into the light of modern-day South Africa. The Studentebond's congress at Stellenbosch this week has been a major turning point in its outlook, marked by a comprehensive reappraisal of what for decades have been the most basic assumptions of Nationalist ideology.

The consensus among these Afrikaans students is that the 1948 apartheid policy and the homelands policy are proven failures. Which is no small transformation for a Nationalist body which has been so strictly conformist and even reactionary.

It would be easy to deride the Studentebond for its belated awakening to facts of life which should have been obvious to inquiring young minds years ago, such as the inherent contradiction between economic integration and any attempt at political separation. One could also scoff at some of their muddled thinking as they try to grapple with the implications of their realisation that separatism is impractical, such as their acceptance of a motion recognising the Indians as full citizens, while rejecting another that Indians should be allowed to participate in decision-making at all levels.

But that would be missing the point. What is important is that the cream of the next generation of Afrikaner Nationalism has broken with the past and is thinking anew. In the circumstances it is small wonder that they are suffering from a certain amount of confusion; a long tradition of conformity is not easily cast aside, and when a set of assumptions that one was born to and brought up with

are suddenly questioned and discarded it will take a little time to work out what to put in their place.

So never mind the contradictions and the lack of a clear new line; the change in itself is what gives hope for the future.
Johannesburg E — July 13

— Beeld

Preparing the way

The decision to admit in principle Brown students to the Afrikaanse Studentebond will be a pleasant surprise to all thinking Afrikaners. It is all the more encouraging that Afrikaner youth has taken the initiative in this.

For years there has been alienation between the Afrikaner and the Brown man and this was sad. The gulf is already so wide that there is a strong possibility that the Brown students will reject any approaches from the ASB.

It is possible there will be a feeling in many Brown circles that since they have been humiliated over a period of years and still cannot claim full citizenship rights, they will not be prepared to co-operate in a friendly way with people who are part of the power structure.

It will be surprising if the ASB does not encounter such an attitude. Should it happen, however, we would advise the ASB not to regard rejection as final. Once human relations have been harmed, restoration is not all that easy. The ASB should keep new strategies and new techniques of approach on its agendas.

Other Afrikaner institutions should not ignore the lead taken by the ASB. There should be closer liaison between the Afrikaner and the Brown man at cultural and economic level. Since closer political ties are to be brought about at the highest level of Government before long, there is no reason why cultural bodies should not follow the Government's example.

Irrespective of the success of the ASB's move in the short run, the act itself was one of paving the way which will be recorded in history.

Johannesburg A — July 13

The Friend

Clear thinking from the ASB

Although the congress of the Afrikaanse Studentebond in Stellenbosch failed to reach a decision condemning South Africa's laws against racially mixed marriages and sex across the colour line — as an ASB report on the subject said, why not make all immorality punishable, regardless of race, colour or population group? — its other debates showed again that the country has good reason for optimism in the calibre of the young men who could well be its future leaders.

Clearly, the ASB has been doing some hard and sensible thinking about South Africa's future.

One study paper released at the congress said separate development would not work unless it also promoted common interests between population groups.

Although it was every group's right to do everything in its power to protect its identity, the paper said, this should not be done by discriminating against other groups or harming their rights and dignity.

Another study praised the positive influence of the Wiehahn and Riekert commissions, saying it would be of decisive importance to future peaceful co-existence in South Africa because it cleared the way for co-operation between Whites and Blacks in circumstances of healthy competition based on merit not colour.

The realism and lack of bias in ASB thinking is refreshing. So too is the students' evident concern for the dignity and advancement of other population groups.

The unemotional, low-key approach to South Africa's problems adopted by the ASB is exactly what the country needs from its young leaders of the future.

Bloemfontein

E — July 12

Die Vaderland

Redistribution

The Afrikaanse Studentebond has expressed itself strongly in favour of a redistribution of income.

In the light of the responsible nature of the rest of its deliberations and decisions, we would like to accept that in this case the ASB was guilty of incorrect wording rather than dangerous thinking.

Redistribution of income is a socialistic concept, at its best applicable in a welfare state. It means taking away from those who earn well to give to those who earn less.

We are wholeheartedly in favour of creation of new job opportunities, opening of job opportunities to all and salaries according to merit and productivity.

But a *redistribution* of wealth and earnings is a socialistic concept which would plunge this country and all its people into misery.

Johannesburg

A — July 13

HERALD

Facing the fact of failure

Delegates at the congress of the Afrikaanse Studentebond could not have expressed the doubts currently nagging at young thinking South Africans more clearly. True, their words echoed what those conscious of the folly of Government policy have been saying for more than a generation. But that a body which has historically been an important training school for many Nationalist leaders, and which has until now been a notorious repository of backward ideas, should have declared the apartheid and homelands policies failures is nothing short of momentous.

The members gathered at Stellenbosch did not mince their words in backing their call for a new political dispensation drawn up in consultation between members of all race groups. In a motion summing up its stance on the Government's policy, the ASB called for recognition of the permanence and contribution of blacks outside the homelands, declared that separation as such could never offer a complete solution to

the problems of South Africa, and contended that the hope of creating black homelands separate from a white South Africa was made futile by the economic interdependence and integration of the various race groups. What is more, only one delegate voted against the motion, and two abstained.

It is most heartening that the ASB has finally opened its eyes to reality, and that its members had the courage to declare their stance so frankly. What they said struck at the very foundations of the policy of separate development. For stripped of the premise that the various race groups can be divided into self-contained compartments, the entire policy is not only exposed as an illusion, but can also patently no longer serve its intended function of justifying the denial of political and social rights to blacks outside the homelands.

The ASB will do the country an immense service if it can persuade the Government finally to heed criticisms which have been levelled at its policy by the Opposition and the opposition Press for the past three decades. If, on the other hand, the Government continues on its present course, ASB members should remain true to their newly adopted beliefs and avoid being sucked into the Nationalist establishment when they leave university. Resolutions adopted at their congress show that the political ideas of most ASB members are now remarkably similar to those of many opposition organisations. This should assist them in their wise decision to make more contact with black students. It should also clear the ground for a closing of the gap between the ASB and students at the English-language universities. If young South Africans can start political discussion in an atmosphere free from outmoded blood and racial ties, they will have done much to insure their own futures.

Port Elizabeth

E — July 13

Rapport

At the outpost

It's a good thing that young bulls are prodding older bulls with their horns — that's definitely what the ASB is doing.

The new spirit, critical attitude, the congress decisions which sometimes

differed diametrically from establishment thought, will irritate the dogma men, the status quo worshippers and those who draw comfort from new names for old concepts.

Such people will call the ASB's "out-post thought" precocious chatter coming from young people who do not yet know enough about "political realities". The young cannot and should not be unnerved by this.

Until relatively recently the ASB was shrouded in mustiness and said aye to all the established order uttered. Perhaps there was something soothing about agreeing with solemn words.

There was no other purpose.

It is the true nature of young people to look critically at the world around them. It is particularly necessary in the South Africa of today with its currents, tensions

and problems.

It is, after all, their future that is at issue. It is their good right to ask penetrating questions about things that affect it.

They would be doing themselves an injustice were they to proceed with their eyes closed towards the day that full responsibility becomes their lot. They would be bearing an inherited burden, they would merely be grappling with it as today's politicians largely have to do.

Hopefully they will teach old eyes to take a fresh look at things. Indeed, young people are standing at the out-post in more ways than one. A more than formidable task lies ahead. It is right that they prepare for it, as the ASB is doing.

Johannesburg

A — July 15

CSO: 4420

PRESS COMMENTARY ON GOLD PRICE, COL PUBLISHED

Pretoria SOUTH AFRICA DIGEST in English 27 Jul 79 pp 22-23

[Selections from the "Comment and Opinion" section]

[Text] **Die Volksblad****Make use of this bonus**

In a world economically and politically sick, South Africa has much for which to be thankful. Within days of Minister Owen Horwood's announcement that South Africa's exports — gold excluded — had for the first time earned more than had been spent on imports — oil included — the gold price broke through the 300-dollar barrier.

This means the country's economic diversification had progressed so far that it is no longer so totally dependent on the goldmines and their limited life-span. And there is the added bonus of far greater revenue from gold.

Something for which to be thankful, but no reason for unrealistic jubilation or irresponsible insistence on dramatic tax reductions. For the rising gold price is a reflection of the sick state of the world's industrial countries — South Africa's most important trading partners — and of distrust in paper money coming from inflation, insufficient growth, unemployment and the oil crisis. And these tendencies, already discernible in South Africa, will permeate ever more strongly.

So this bonanza has to be wisely spent to ensure South Africa's survival in the face of the country's major constitutional and economic problems — the slow rate of homeland consolidation and self-sufficiency of independent states and the escalating danger of unemployment, particularly among Blacks.

Accelerated land purchase and expenditure to put homelands on the road to more rapid self-determination should take high priority. At the same time economic growth should be promoted so that the country will not stagnate because of unchecked inflation.

Expenditure on the infrastructure — increased electrification of railways to reduce the country's dependence on oil, for instance, would be an excellent investment. The Government will probably also consider steps to mollify the effects of the worldwide recession which is expected to worsen in South Africa in the next quarter. Certain forms of State expenditure which will not necessarily contribute to the country's long-term security may appear essential to supply employment.

But let's be realistic. South Africa is in the happy position of having a handful of money at the beginning of the lean years. But this will not enable it to dodge the squeeze. That's why it should spend the bonus with particular care.

Bloemfontein

A — July 19

HERALD**Govt must help the poor**

South Africans' real earnings are currently being eroded by more than 1 per cent each month. This has forced people in the middle income group to cut down on luxury expenditure, which may be frustrating to those with higher material aspirations. But the poor are in a far

more serious plight. For they can sacrifice nothing but commodities essential to their very subsistence.

Rents, transport, basic foods, clothing, footwear and a whole range of other basic goods have jumped alarmingly in cost since the beginning of this year. And now there are ominous signs that bread, the most basic foodstuff of all, may soon follow suit. The hardship that a bread price increase of anything near the predicted 6c to 8c will cause to members of large poor families using several loaves a day does not bear thinking about. They will have no option but to eat less.

Wheat farmers and bread producers, who are themselves vulnerable to inflation, undoubtedly have a case for their request for higher returns. And it may be true that the price of bread is much lower in South Africa than in other Western countries. But in considering the representations of the farmers, millers and bakers, the Government must remember one essential fact. This is that the majority of South Africans simply cannot afford to pay more for bread. With unemployment climbing in the black townships, and with the inflation rate increasing faster than the wages of most people, an increase in the price of bread can only mean an increase in the number of hungry people.

This is a consequence to be avoided at all costs. Fortunately, the phenomenal rise in the gold price has provided a ready solution. The Minister of Finance, Senator Horwood, hinted yesterday that the Government may use some of the unexpected profits of this windfall to pass on benefits to the ordinary man. It is to be hoped that the Government's first priority will be to increase the subsidies on bread and other basic foods. For the spread of hunger, hardship and deprivation constitutes a threat to society no less real than that of the terrorists against whom the Government is arming at huge expense.

Port Elizabeth

E — July 20

Die Transvaler

Cost of living

According to the latest statistics, consumer prices are now rising at 13,5 per cent a year — and that's without taking the effects of higher fuel prices into account.

It is particularly disturbing that food rose so sharply last month. This hits the lower income group hardest since it spends relatively more on food than the higher income group.

And this week a new wheat price is to be fixed. There have already been predictions that a considerable increase is unavoidable. The price of bread will immediately become an issue and, although South Africa's bread is among the cheapest in the world, a price increase will be a hard blow to the needy.

For several reasons subsidising consumers is undesirable. But if there is no alternative, an increase in subsidies will have to be considered to cushion the blow.

Johannesburg

A — July 23

The Daily News

Gold benefit

Champagne is flowing this week as everyone involved in the gold industry celebrates the attainment of a new price record which promises South Africa an annual cash inflow of R6 000-million. But the party spirit should not be allowed to dull official minds to the truth that millions of South Africans are in real hardship. The unemployed and the hungry have every justification for feeling cynical about good fortune which appears to benefit only the rich.

It is true that the bullion record of 303,85 dollars an ounce is a high water mark and that experts predict a downward reaction sooner or later, but the present truth is that over R100-million a week is flowing into this country from foreign gold sales. It would have been enough to have paid for the electrification of Soweto in just four days when the plan was first announced in March 1977. In less than a day it could provide the present bread price subsidy, and in three days it could ensure that the prices of basic foodstuffs do not rise this year. It could build a university every day or a hundred high schools.

It is true that mineworkers are today substantially better off than they once were and that increased mine spending has benefited countless others, but there is not much evidence that those in the greatest need in our society have seen any benefit at all.

Durban

E — July 19

BRIEFS

PORTS SET RECORD--After only two years South Africa's container terminals have astounded world experts by handling containers at a rate that has shattered records set by established overseas ports. Durban, Cape Town and Port Elizabeth are now probably among the most efficient container ports in the world. The assistant general manager, harbours and pipelines, of the South African Railways and Harbours, Mr Bertie Groenewald, said in Containerising News that the terminals' performance had exceeded even the SAR's most hopeful expectations. An original target of 750 containers in 24 hours was planned at each two-crane berth. Now however, containers are handled at a rate of more than 1 000 a day with two cranes. "In April, Port Elizabeth smashed its January record of more than 1 200 per day by recording 1 274. On June 7, the same berth handled 424 containers from the SA Winterberg in 73 hours, the equivalent of handling 1 313 a day," said Mr Groenewald. Mr Groenewald said 40 containers an hour meant the South African terminals were handling containers at the European peak rate. The peak South African rate was 55 an hour. An important factor in the successful operation of the terminals was the high standard of staff and their enthusiasm, said Mr Groenewald. A key group was sent to European and Far Eastern ports to train as instructors. A special handbook on handling containers in terminals was written for South African conditions and workers were also trained on computerised simulators. [Text] [Pretoria SOUTH AFRICA DIGEST in English 20 Jul 79 p 1]

CRANE FOR KOEBERG--The largest crane to be made in South Africa is on its way to Koeberg nuclear power station outside Capt Town and should arrive on Monday. Made by an engineering firm in Wadeville, Germiston, it is 52 m long, weighs 160 tons and cost about R400 000. The South African Press Association reports the trip by road should take about 12 days. [Text] [Pretoria SOUTH AFRICA DIGEST in English 27 Jul 79 p 4]

MARNET SYSTEM--A military area radio network (Marnet) system was recently brought into operation at Kuruman in the North-Western Cape by Brigadier Barry Ferreira, Officer Commanding North-Western Command. The system puts farmers in remote border areas and civil defence organisations in direct 24-hour-a-day touch with the local commando unit. Marnet also serves as an alarm system in times of emergency. [Text] [Pretoria SOUTH AFRICA DIGEST in English 20 Jul 79 p 9]

JOB PROSPECTS BRIGHTER--Job prospects for Blacks and Whites were now the best for three years, according to a survey by Manpower, a personnel consultancy. The survey was carried out among 1 200 South African companies. Of the 30 industries listed in the survey, the clearing and forwarding industry was the only one where most employers intended to decrease rather than increase staff during the next three months. Manpower warns that the demand for skilled workers is likely to outstrip supply in these improved conditions. [Text] [Pretoria SOUTH AFRICA DIGEST in English 20 Jul 79 p 17]

HOSPITAL AT KEETMANSHOOP--A giant hospital is being built at Keetmanshoop, South West Africa. It will be among the best equipped in the country and will be for all races. According to DIE REPUBLIKEIN, the hospital will cost about \$16,4-million and the first phase should be completed by December 1980. It will eventually have 515 beds and will also be a teaching hospital. [Text] [Pretoria SOUTH AFRICA DIGEST in English 27 Jul 79 p 20]

STRONG ISRAEL-SA TIES--Israel had great affection for South Africa and it was inconceivable that the Republic should fall into the hands of totalitarian powers, the retiring Israeli ambassador, Mr Itzhak Unna, said at a luncheon in Johannesburg. He said the world was being held to ransom by the Arab states and it was in the interests of South Africa and Israel to resist them with strong, stable governments. He said in a report in THE CITIZEN that when he arrived in South Africa in 1968, he thought he had the solution to its problems at his fingertips. But they were so extremely complex and varied they would not easily be solved. Tribute was paid to Mr Unna by the chairman of the South African Zionist Federation, Mr I Kalmanowitz, who said Mr Unna had done a "tremendous amount to cement good relations between South Africa and Israel at all levels--cultural, social, economic and political." [Text] [Pretoria SOUTH AFRICA DIGEST in English 20 Jul 79 p 5]

ISRAELI TOURISTS--Israelis are queueing to come to South Africa. Applications for tourist visas to South Africa have increased by 38 per cent so far this year, according to embassy officials in Jerusalem. The correspondent of THE STAR there reports that while the exact number is not available, "many thousands" are involved. Many of the vast increase would involve diamond workers. Israeli diamond sales have slumped by up to 20 per cent compared with last year's figures and about 3 000 workers in the industry have inquired about conditions for granting visas to South Africa. Many have taken out tourist visas, intending to look for alternative employment in South Africa. Most of them are young, in the 19-25 age group. [Text] [Pretoria SOUTH AFRICA DIGEST in English 20 Jul 79 p 5]

J. H. ISSACS PROJECT IN ISRAEL--The Johannesburg property group, J H Issacs, is playing a key role in developing Israel's R5-million Marineland in Tel Aviv's central business district, reports THE STAR. The company is the consultant and a major investor in the project under the banner of the Tel Aviv Dolphinarium, which is financed by a South African business consortium in association with Israel's Tourist Development Corporation. Marineland, which will have a dolphinarium, theatre, restaurant, shops and parking facilities, is expected to be completed next year and will attract about 1,5-million visitors a year. [Text] [Pretoria SOUTH AFRICA DIGEST in English 20 Jul 79 p 5]

URANIUM PROSPECTING RIGHTS GRANTED

Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 28 Jul 79 p 24

[Text] Dar es Salaam, Friday--Tanzania has granted uranium prospecting rights to a West German company, but on conditions that any found must not be exported to South Africa, Rhodesia or Namibia, according to a government statement.

The statement said that Bonn-based Uranerzbergbau has been granted a three-year prospecting permission.

Last year, the company had been granted prospecting rights for one year following aerial surveys that indicated a likelihood of uranium deposits.

"The reconnaissance activities so far conducted have confirmed the existence of encouraging prospects", the statement said.

"The government and the company have, therefore, reached an agreement on a programme of operation involving substantial expenditures by the West German firm over an initial period of three years, which may be extended to two further periods of two years."

The statement said "in accordance with the government policy of socialism and self reliance, Tanzania will acquire a 51 per cent interest in a joint venture."

CSO: 4420

MEASURES TO HALT ZNS DESERTIONS RECOMMENDED

Soko Suggestion

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 2 Aug 79 p 5

[Text] A top UNIP official has suggested that the Party and its Government should consider allowing only those who complete 20 months training to secure places at institutions of further training in order to stop Form Five school-leavers deserting from Zambia National Service (ZNS) camps.

Copperbelt member of the Central Committee Mr Shadreck Soko said this yesterday at a pass-out parade involving 722 Form Five school leavers who completed their 20 months compulsory ZNS training at Ndola camp. The group which passed out yesterday was recruited in December 1977.

Mr Soko said the Party and its Government were determined to deal very firmly with all those school-leavers who either failed to report for training or failed to complete their training without proper reasons.

"I would like to thank the Zambia National Defence Forces for undertaking the valuable training of school-leavers and look forward to the day when there will be maximum co-operation from all quarters to make the whole programme a resounding success," Mr Soko said.

He charged that some of the criticisms levelled against ZNS training are not justified at all.

"Some people have, for example, even gone to the extent of saying that the training given to school-leavers is not necessary at all.

"I would therefore like to appeal that parents take keen interest in the programme so that they know and appreciate what exactly goes on in the training camps," Mr Soko said.

He said the Party and its Government would like to ensure that there was full participation in this programme by all able-bodied school-leavers.

He however, pointed out that some parents or guardians have continued to frustrate the smooth running of this programme by discouraging their children or dependants from reporting for training or not persuading them to return to the camps once the children absconded.

He said this was despite the fact that the Party and its Government were doing all they could to minimise the hardships the trainees were facing in the camps.

He said the Party and its Government were aware of the several administrative problems which ZNS camps were facing.

He said some of the problems were largely due to lack of money.

He added that the financial problem facing the nation will no doubt be resolved as the economy picks up and the administrative problems which the camps are currently facing will be attended to.

Masheke Seeks Cooperation

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 1 Aug 79 p 2

[Text]

EMPLOYEES and parents have been asked to co-operate with the State in ensuring that Form Five school leavers complete national service training.

Zambia National Defence Force deputy commander, Major-General Malimba Masheke, asked for this co-operation when he addressed a pass-out parade of Form Five school leavers at Kafue National Service camp on Monday.

General Masheke appealed to parents and guardians of students who desert national service camps to report to authorities so that they could

be tracked down.

He said authorities were experiencing difficulties in tracing deserters because many of them were no longer at the addresses they gave when they went to the compulsory training.

He warned that employing deserters or harbouring them was an offence.

"I must emphasise here that the act of colluding with deserters is not only counter revolutionary, but also downright treacherous which is punishable under the Zambia National Service Act", he added. — Zana.

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